

Taming the Tigers
The Tribe hopes to win their first CAA game of the season against Towson.
See TIGER page 10



A walk through Wren
The Spotswood Society gives tours of Wren and offers a student view on the history of the College.
See SPOTSWOOD page 6

The Flat Hat

The twice-weekly student newspaper of the College of William and Mary ♦ Est. 1911

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FLATHATNEWS.COM

Assets grow by 19.2%

Endowment grows at market average

By AUSTIN WRIGHT
Flat Hat News Editor

The College's endowment grew 19.2 percent in the 2006 to 2007 fiscal year, from \$491.7 million to \$585.9 million — the largest growth since 2000. Chair of the William and Mary Foundation Howard Busbee said that the investment trust grew 19.5 percent.

The investment trust includes only the endowment funds invested in assets and does not count funds acquired as gifts or funds paid out from the endowment to be spent. In the 2005 to 2006 fiscal year, the investment trust grew 13.7 percent.

"As stewards of these important funds, the William and Mary Foundation takes a great deal of pride in this exceptional rate of return," Busbee said in a College press release. "As a result of this investment performance, all of the important programs and priorities of the College will be even stronger in the long term."

In an interview during a break at the Board of Visitors meeting yesterday, Busbee said the increased rate of return results from two decisions of the foundation: moving assets away from pure stocks and bonds and into partnership investments and hiring a chief investment officer, Brian Hiestand, who Busbee says brings additional expertise to the foundation.

According to Bloomberg.com, foundations with endowments of more than \$1 billion grew 18.1 percent during the 2006 to 2007 fiscal year. Over that time period, the Standard and Poor's 500 Index grew 20.6 percent, including dividends.

According to the press release, the total endowment growth results from new contributions to the endowment, growth in the investment trust, growth in the funds held in trust by others and increases in the College's real estate holdings.

"Thanks to a sophisticated investment strategy and the heartening support of alumni and friends of the College over the past fiscal year, this is terrific news for all who love this College," President Gene Nichol said in the press release. "This growth in our endowment will continue to cement the long-term financial health of this historic institution for generations to come."

Freshmen elect Piña to lead

Kyrios '09 wins in a landslide for vacated senate seat over Dunn

By RUSS ZERBO
The Flat Hat

The winners of the freshman election were unveiled last night at the Library Tavern.

The event began with Student Assembly President Zach Pilchen '08 and Vice President Valerie Hopkins '08 introducing newly elected Freshman Class President Jazmine Piña, taking off the blindfold Piña was wearing when she arrived.

Before the meeting, Hopkins and Pilchen conducted a mock initiation of Piña.

"They took me to the woods," Piña said in jest.

"I think we're all hoping to unite the class," Piña said. "There are some things I want to attack, but I want to listen to the class first."

Piña said she was eager to change the meal plan policy and is considering an effort to have dinner hours expanded. Unlike most of her peers, Piña did little campaigning, placing no posters around campus. On the



LAUREN LAMP — THE FLAT HAT

Pilchen congratulates new Freshman Class President Jazmine Piña.

"Vote Jazmine Piña for 2011 president" Facebook group, Piña summed up her platform, "As your class president, I will organize events for our class predicated on YOUR input and ideas, not my own agenda."

Elections were also held for junior

class senator. Alex Kyrios and Cliff Dunn competed over the vacated seat of former senator Sean Sheppard, who no longer attends the College. Sheppard endorsed Dunn for his seat

See PIÑA page 4

Election winners

Class of 2011
President
Jazmine Piña

VP for Advocacy
Sarah Oweremohle

VP for Social Affairs
Hannah Armentrout

Secretary
Chrissy Scott

Treasurer
Yael Gilboa

Senators
(in order of votes)
Ronnie Wang
Michael Douglass
Brittany Fallon
Ben Brown

Class of 2009
Senator
Alex Kyrios

Budget cut a problem for Swem

By ALEX GUILLÉN
Flat Hat Assoc. Reviews Editor

The state budget cuts and the minimum wage hike have caused several problems at Swem Library, including the abandonment of longer hours and a hiring freeze.

Dean of University Libraries Connie McCarthy said that the budget problems will not affect current hours and that no employees will be let go.

McCarthy said that the recent priorities of the library were to extend hours during the week. This was accomplished several years ago when the weekday closing time was changed.

"We have run comparisons with our peer schools and it was data such as this that helped us make the case to expand regular hours to 2 a.m.," she said. "Previously we closed at midnight, only extending hours during exam time. With that regular increase

of 10 hours, that brought us more in line with other libraries."

During the hours of midnight to 2 a.m. Sunday through Thursday, two campus police officers patrol the building. The extra 10 hours per week costs about \$13,500 per year, according to McCarthy.

A study performed by The Flat Hat found that when Swem's weekly hours were compared with the nation's top schools and other public Virginia universities, the hours were approximately the same. Swem is open 103 hours per week. Some of the nation's top schools — Harvard, Johns Hopkins, Princeton, Stanford, University of California — Los Angeles, the University of Pennsylvania and Yale — averaged 104.8 hours per week. The public Virginia universities examined — the University of Virginia, George Mason University, James Madison University, Mary Washington University, Old Dominion University,

Radford University, Virginia Tech, Virginia Commonwealth University and the Virginia Military Institute — averaged 104.3 hours per week.

However, when the hours of the College's peer schools, as determined

See BUDGET page 4



JULIA SCHAUMBURG — THE FLAT HAT

Due to budget cuts, Swem Library will not be able to offer extended hours.

Students learn stocks

Investment Club uses \$25,000 fund to practice trading, returns

By MEGHAN O'MALLEY
Flat Hat Staff Writer

The rate of return on the Investment Club's portfolio each year has been less than that of the market average. Overall, the club has seen a 5.7 percent annualized return on their investments since 2002. The greatest increase occurred from 2002 to 2003 with a 19.92 percent change. From 2004 to 2005, there was a -0.60 percent change. The data comes from Caleb Piatt '09, the club president.

However, the club has to pay transaction fees of \$80 to \$100 every time a stock is bought or sold, according to Piatt. The stockbroker who handles the transactions is also the alumnus who donated the money, so "to attempt to move the money to an online account where transactions would be much less [expensive] would not be a very

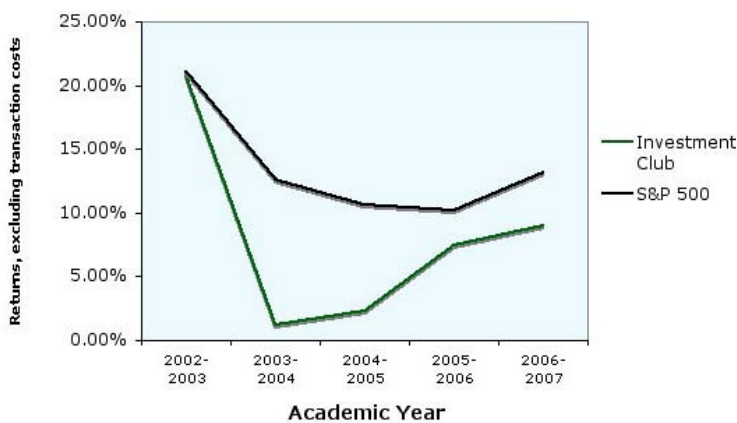
nice way of showing our thanks," Piatt wrote in an e-mail to The Flat Hat. With these transactions fees excluded, Piatt calculated that the annualized return on the club's investments since 2002 would be 7.9 percent.

The club's portfolio began with

"roughly \$20,000," Piatt said. In the early 1980s, Aubrey Mason, an alumnus of the College, donated the money to the business school, according to Investment Club faculty advisor Prof. James Haltiner.

See CLUB page 3

Investment Club Performance



COURTESY GRAPHIC — STATISTICS PROVIDED BY THE INVESTMENT CLUB

Families to arrive on campus

By ALISAN VANFLEET
The Flat Hat

Parents and Family Weekend 2007 begins today, with approximately 1,000 families registered to attend. That number matches the participation of past years, according to Ginger Ambler, assistant vice president of Student Affairs.

"More than just seeing their sons and daughters, the weekend is an opportunity [for parents] to live the William and Mary experience," Ambler said. "They meet their child's roommates and friends and get a flavor of campus life at [the College]."

Patrick Donaldson '08, who coordinated the student volunteers for the weekend with co-chair Laura Sauvain '09, echoed the same sentiments.

"Parents want to be a part of their students' lives. This weekend offers a two-day look into everything that [the College] has to offer."

The history of the College will be displayed through lantern tours of ancient campus, starting at the Wren courtyard and lasting from 9:15 to 10:15 p.m. Friday. Also, an open house at the student house in Colonial Williamsburg is scheduled from 4 to 6 p.m. Saturday.

"It has been a pleasure to have a place off campus this final year at [the College]," Dean

Edwards '08, one of two students living in the home this year, said. "The location is very beautiful and house itself is fairly comfortable."

With respect to how he feels about opening his "dorm" to a sea of parents, Edwards described his philosophy as, "Go right ahead, come on in."

Saturday morning, members of the faculty will give lectures covering a range of intellectual subjects in the panel series. In addition, the seventh annual Homerathon, a marathon reading of epic poetry, will take place in the Crim Dell Amphitheater Saturday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., representing the College's intellectual side.

In the name of community service, families are invited to register and participate in the 5K "Marrow-thon" Sunday morning. All proceeds will benefit the Alan Bukzin Memorial Bone Marrow Drive.

"The Drive's ultimate goal is to register more than 1,500 people in the National Marrow Donor Program," Shannon More '10, member of the steering committee said. "But in order to register as many students as possible and save lives, we host fundraising events like the 5K to cover the cost of registration."

The Family Weekend Concert, featuring the

See FAMILIES page 4

NEWSINSIGHT

The Flat Hat

‘Stabilitas et Fides’

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Corrections

The Flat Hat wishes to correct any facts printed incorrectly. Corrections may be submitted by e-mail to the section editor in which the incorrect information was printed. Requests for corrections will be accepted at any time.

Weather

Friday



High 88°
Low 60°

Saturday



High 80°
Low 58°

Sunday



High 79°
Low 57°

Source: www.weather.com

Quotes of the Week

“This bill is just a gigantic slap in the face to police.”
—SA Senator Walter McClean '09 on a recently passed bill exprssing disapproval of increased arrests on campus.
See SA page 3

“The best thing is talking to strangers, like fourth graders and the Hungarians. Not to mention foreign dignitaries.”
—Spotswoods Society member Jackie Woods '09 on giving tours of the Wren Building to guests.
See SPOTSWOOD page 6

News in Brief

Williamsburg expands wi-fi coverage despite complaints

Williamsburg has announced plans to expand its wireless internet service called Williamsburg Wi-Fi, but still faces complaints about frequent disconnections and inconsistent access to certain websites.

The service currently covers parts of Duke of Gloucester and Prince George streets, as well as most of Merchants Square. The city calls it a boon to economic development which draws visitors to downtown Williamsburg. Usage of the service has risen 52 percent in 2007 compared to the same period in 2006, and the city plans to expand it to include all municipal buildings and parks. But according to Gerri Pratt, co-owner of downtown coffee shop Aroma’s, the existing coverage’s lack of reliability is still a problem. Pratt told the Daily Press she used to receive complaints “all the time,” and still hears them often.

Mark Barham, Williamsburg’s information technology manager, says that this low number is merely a result of the fact that the service is new and estimates that the city has received about two complaints per month since the service’s launch in 2005.

There are currently no plans to integrate the city’s wireless service with that of the College or CW, as Barham said this could cause the different networks to jam one another. He did say there is much enthusiasm on the city council for eventual expansion to cover all of Williamsburg’s residential neighborhoods.

— by Trent Fulton

By the Numbers

95 percent

The proportion of freshmen who return to the College their sophomore year.

\$2.35

The amount per student that it costs to keep Swem Library open until 2 a.m. instead of midnight. Swem started closing at 2 a.m. in fall of 2006.

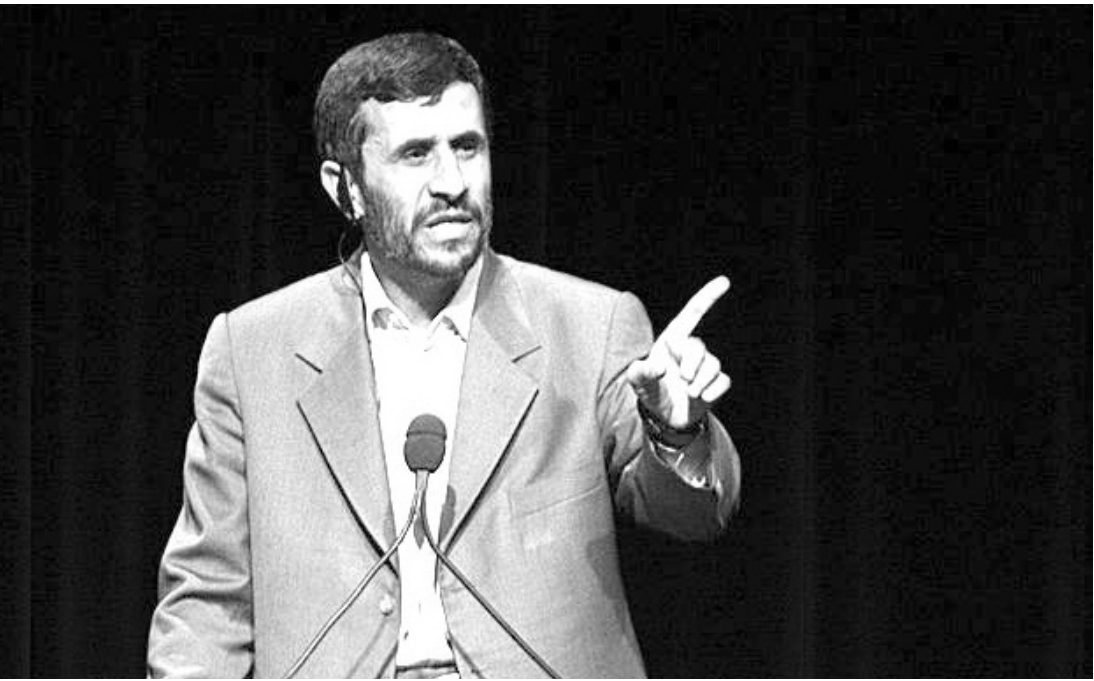
364

The number of licks that it takes to get to the center of a Tootsie Roll Pop based on a study by engineering students at Purdue University using a licking machine modeled on the human tongue. Other university studies report estimates ranging from 144 to 411 licks.

20-30 percent

The proportion of cell phone calls in Africa that are “beepers,” the term used when a caller hangs up as soon as the call goes through, in the hope that the receiver will call them back and have to pay the phone bill for the conversation. The trend has been growing in Africa, where cell use is seven times more than in 2001.

— by Maxim Lott



COURTESY PHOTO — WIKIPEDIA COMMONS.

Admadinejad was widely criticized for his answers to questions from both students and faculty.

BEYOND THE BURG

Iranian President visits Columbia University

Ahmadinejad visits New York amid criticism from students and faculty

By TRENT FULTON
The Flat Hat

Controversial Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad spoke at Columbia University in New York City Monday, after hesitation on the part of Columbia officials as to whether the speech would occur. Ahmadinejad stood before hundreds of students and faculty with thousands listening or protesting outside.

Ahmadinejad has drawn heated criticism for his statements about Israel and the United States. He has called for Israel to be “wiped off the map” and believes the Holocaust to be “a myth.” Columbia found itself under attack for its invitation to the president, and last week was publicly undecided on whether it would allow Ahmadinejad to speak. Pro-Israel groups, some unaffiliated with Columbia, protested his presence. Additionally, the leftist World Can’t Wait organization handed out copies of the communist newspaper Revolution and held signs declaring “Ahmadinejad = Bad, Bush = Worse.”

After arriving in New York, Ahmadinejad requested to visit the World Trade Center site, but was denied after strong objections from families of 9/11 victims and instead spent the weekend speaking at the United Nations.

Columbia President Lee Bollinger promised that the leader would be met with harsh questioning and at one point said his guest was “a cruel and petty dictator.” Ahmadinejad was reportedly calm, taking questions from students amid scattered boos.

At one point, a question regarding the treatment of homosexuals in Iran was raised. Ahmadinejad responded, “In Iran, we don’t have homosexuals like in your country,” a claim that was met with derision both inside and outside the auditorium.

Bollinger’s treatment of the speaker was also controversial, although many Americans praised his demeanor throughout the event.

“There are some issues of such grave importance that being too polite to your guest is actually a betrayal of your beliefs,” Noah

Feldman, a Harvard law professor and former consultant to the Coalition Provisional Authority in Iraq, told the New York Times.

Other Ahmadinejad critics called the approach counter-productive, arguing in the New York Times and other newspapers that the “uncivil” tone would only bolster the president’s popularity within Iran, where he has recently faced unrest over his failure to stem economic instability.

This disagreement comes at a tense time in U.S.-Iranian relations, driven by claims by the United States that Iran sponsors insurgents in Iraq and is seeking nuclear weapons, accusations that the Iranian government denies.

Still, Columbia maintains that the duty of a prestigious university is to enhance discussion. John Coatsworth, dean of the School of International and Public Affairs, told Fox News that if, prior to the invasion of Poland, Adolf Hitler “were willing to engage in a debate and discussion, challenged by Columbia students and faculty, we would certainly invite him.”

STREET BEAT

What do you think about the Campus Police?



I think the lower level officers are too strict for their own good. Students need to feel like they can trust them.

Amanda Mullins '09



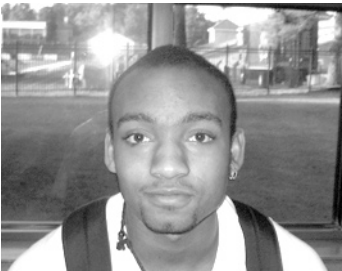
They have a bad rep but I think they are just doing their jobs.

Kristen Pantazes '10



My friend was arrested in January and the officer was very rude. He didn’t even read him his Miranda rights.

Erik Houser '10



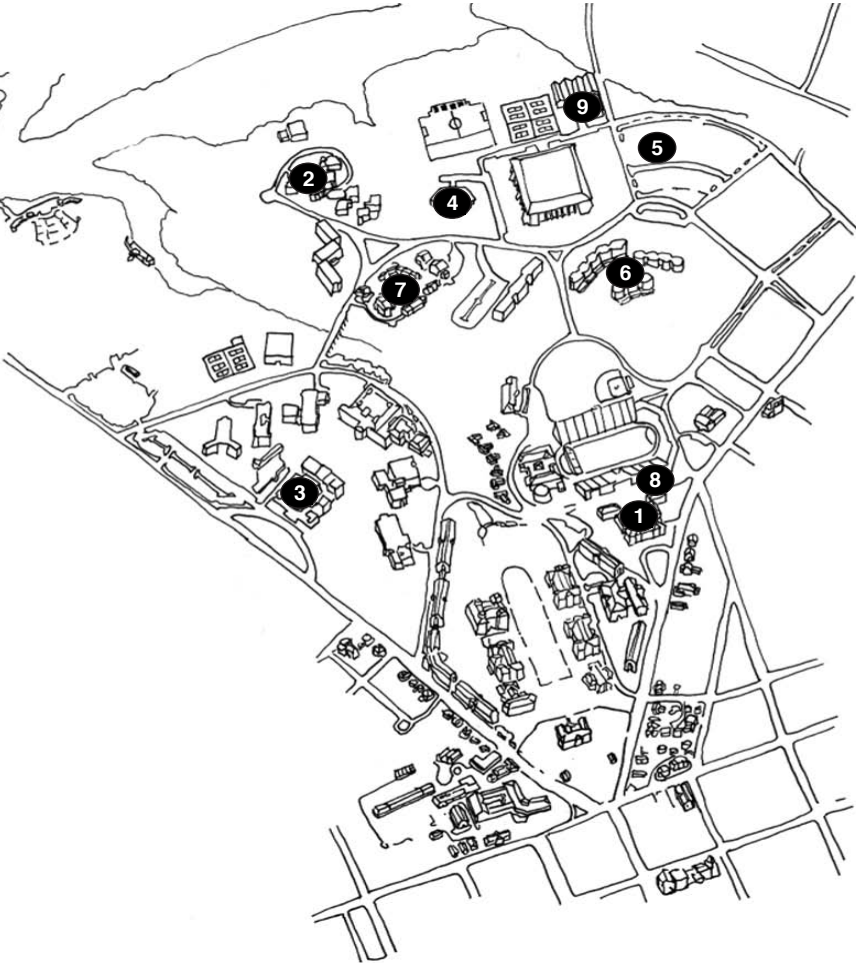
They are here ... to protect and to keep order and they do a good job of that. Just their presence is enough to keep things in line.

Randall Taylor '08

— photos and interviews by Erin Lutes

CAMPUS POLICE BEAT

Sept. 18 - Sept. 24



Tuesday, Sept. 18 — A bike was reported stolen from Bryan Hall. The estimated value was \$175. **1**

Friday, Sept. 21 — A bike worth approximately \$100 was reported stolen from Spotswood Hall in the Botetourt Complex. The incident occurred approximately two days before it was reported. **2**

— A burglary at Phi Beta Kappa Memorial Hall was reported from April 2006. An estimated \$250 was stolen. **3**

— A burglary was reported at the Commons. Approximately \$200 worth of food items was reported stolen. **4**

Saturday, Sept. 22 — A student reported the theft of a cell phone valued at \$75 from the William & Mary Hall parking lot. **5**

— A caller from Unit E accused students from Unit F of assaulting them with beer bottles. Witnesses told the responding officer that individuals from Unit H were the instigators. **6**

— A property owner in the Holly Hills neighborhood called in a complaint about noise coming from a unknown campus event.

Sunday, Sept. 23 — An individual was reported to be unconscious at the Randolph Complex. Police officers and paramedics were dispatched and the individual was charged with being drunk in public. **7**

Monday, Sept. 24 — A student reported that her car was vandalized in the Zable Stadium Parking lot. Damage was estimated at \$500. **8**

— A student reported the theft of a wallet, phone and keys from the Rec Center. The total estimated value was \$50. **9**

—compiled by Sarah Hays

This week in
Flat Hat history

1928

Extension classes for the College began in Hopewell, Newport News, Richmond and Norfolk. Official statistics showed that 924 students had enrolled for the 1928-1929 academic year. The Extension Department of the College, which was organized in 1919, offered classes that granted credit for students wishing to enroll permanently in the Williamsburg campus.

1966

A guard was posted at the entrance of the library after the library found that an average of 384 books had gone missing per year and that roughly 1.4 percent of the total College collection had disappeared since 1953.

1974

The Merchants Square portion of Duke of Gloucester Street, which used to be a paved roadway accessible to cars, underwent several improvements by the city that made the street more pedestrian-friendly. One of the biggest changes was the replacement of the street curbs with the sloping edges that are present today.

1985

Hurricane Gloria, the most powerful hurricane to hit the East Coast in 25 years, forced the College to temporarily close and reschedule family weekend two months later. Although the damage caused by the storm was extensive in some areas of the state, the College came away relatively unhurt by the storm.

— compiled by Isshin Teshima

Former student faces charges of theft, burglary

Curtis White is accused of breaking into buildings at the College and theft at other Virginia universities

By **SAM SUTTON**
Flat Hat Staff Writer

Charges have been brought against former College student Curtis White '07, 23, in connection with four break-ins on the College's campus during spring of 2006.

According to the Daily Press, the break-ins occurred at the Registrar's Office in Blow Hall, Phi Beta Kappa Hall, the Commons' Dining Hall and the ID office in the Campus Center.

White's alleged crimes include using a stolen employee password in an attempt to change his grades, stealing a total of \$450 in clothing, the theft of food and tools from PBK and the cafeteria and taking a blank campus ID card from the ID office.

Breaking and entering, computer trespassing, computer fraud, petty larceny and unauthorized duplication of keys have been added to the list of charges against White.

White is also reportedly connected to the \$89,000 theft of electronics from George Mason University and is suspected in a similar burglary at Washington and Lee University.

Former student Crystal Davis '07, 22, of Richmond and current student Jason Cutler '08 were also arrested in connection to the incident at GMU.

"America's Most Wanted" ran a story on the burglaries. Film of White's arrest can be viewed on the show's website.

"White is suspected of using unauthorized keys to gain access to various campus buildings,"

Brian Whitson of University Relations said.

As of printing time, Police Chief Don Challis could not be reached for comment.



COURTESY — AMERICA'S MOST WANTED
Former student Curtis White was accused of burglary and theft.

Student calls lead to cash

Students raise money through College Phonathon

By **ALINA TODOR**
Flat Hat Staff Writer

In the basement of Old Dominion Hall, dedicated students spend their evenings talking on the phone, earning cash for the College. The Phonathon, a student-run organization that is a subsidiary of The Fund for William and Mary, aims to raise money by calling alumni, parents and friends of the College to request donations.

Issues concerning the Wren Cross have repeatedly arisen for student phonathon callers. Alumni of the College have expressed their opinions or even refused to pledge based on the events during and after the Wren cross controversy.

However, these two issues, according to Landon Rordam '10, are becoming less important to most alumni giving pledges.

"At the peak of the Wren cross controversy, about five or six alumni a night would refuse to give for this reason," he said. "Nowadays, we'll generally get just one refusal [because of the cross issue] a night. In fact, right now we'll talk to just about as many people who support President Nichol as are upset with him."

The phonathon has proven

successful in the past few years.

"On a good day, the alumni who gave last year will give at a rate of 70 or 80 percent, while the alumni who gave a few years ago, or have never given, will hover around 10 or 20 percent," Rordam, who has been employed by the phonathon for two years, said.

According to The Fund for William and Mary website, the student phonathon also attempts to "foster relationships [between students and alumni], update [alumni] on campus events and news [and] raise unrestricted dollars for the Fund for William and Mary."

The two categories of students in the phonathon are supervisors and callers. Supervisors, according to the fund's website, "have experience as successful callers and are responsible for ... running shifts, reports, coaching and motivating callers and making the Phonathon a great place to work."

Callers raise money and conduct "Thank-a-Thons," which thank alumni for donations.

The supervisors and callers are all students, fostering a fun, tight-knit working environment.

"Being a supervisor at the phonathon not only allows me to work with some of my closest

friends, but it also allows me to really help make a difference here at the College by raising support," phonathon supervisor Jimmy Edmonds '08 said.

The members of the phonathon enjoy fostering relationships with alumni.

"The alumni are great. They have all kinds of weird stories, and they generally like to talk to students," Eric Scruggs '09, a student supervisor, said.

Rordam agreed that most of the alumni were fun to talk to and showed support and concern for the College's future.

"Most of [the alumni] are very nice and eager to hear about what's going on at William and Mary and even about the callers themselves — what we're majoring in, how we're liking school, where we're living, etc. Sometimes they're a little curt, but rarely rude," Rordam said.

The students who work for the phonathon feel that they are truly making a difference by bridging the gap between students and alumni while raising money for the College.

"It is very satisfying to leave a day of work and know that you raised \$1,000 for William and Mary," Rordam said. "Not many people can say that after a two-and-a-half hour shift."

SA passes controversial police bill

By **RUSS ZERBO**
The Flat Hat

The Student Assembly passed bills regarding student's rights, off-campus spending and student elections during Tuesday's meeting. Debate centered on the Insurance of Student Safety and Freedom of Assembly Act, which passed 9-3-4.

The bill was presented by Sens. Matt Skibiak '08 and Orlando Watson '10. It focused on the increased police presence on campus and "demands that in the interest of the student body's health and fitness that the [the College's] Police Department scale down their recent escalation." The bill's creators also "deeply disapprove of the WMPD's increased frequency and use of intimidation tactics on and around campus."

"When you go to parties right now on campus you can see that the police are acting a lot more harshly since I've been in college," Skibiak said. "The point is, I really want to create an environment where students can drink in a safe and social environment."

Watson and Skibiak also answered the bill's detractors.

"This bill is just a gigantic slap in the face to the police," Sen. Walter McClean '09 said, to

which Watson replied, "It's definitely about improving student-police relations."

"No one else here should vote for it unless we have facts," Joe Luppino-Esposito '08 said regarding what students thought about the bill.

The Elections Commission successfully presented the proposed website votenet.com to hold future student elections. The site was not functioning at last week's meeting. Votenet.com includes biographies and personal statements from each candidate. It also allows the user to confirm their choices, make sure they voted in all categories and print out a receipt of their vote.

The SA was informed that although the site usually does not have instant run-off voting, run-off voting can be implemented by votenet.com at the College's request. The SA constitution stipulates that all elections must have instant run-off voting.

It is not yet known whether the website will be used in the spring sections and it was not used for freshman elections. Although there was doubt as to whether the Student Information Network would run the elections as it has in the past, elections yesterday were conducted by the group.

"I talked to Mike Weissberger,

the SIN director, about some of his concerns with the way SIN was treated under past administrations, and assured him that Valerie and myself did not view them the same way," SA President Zach Pilchen, '09 said about how he got SIN to run the elections.

The Off-Campus Account bill was unanimously passed. The bill allows Pilchen and SA Vice President Valerie Hopkins, '09, to front money to student organizations that are in good standing with the school.

The Run-Off Election Act was also unanimously passed. The act says that in the event of a tie in a student election, another election of the top two candidates must occur within two weeks.

The Police Know-Your-Rights Cards Act was unanimously passed shortly after being introduced as new business. The cards are similar to the Know-Your-Rights in a Residence Hall cards and have the same manufacturing cost of \$250. Three more pieces of new business that must go through committee were presented: the Pass/Fail Option for Underclassmen Act the Reasonable Final Exam Time Act, and the Handicap Accessibility Act.

Club helps students practice trading

CLUB *from page 1*

"A student investment fund was established ... students in the MBA Investments class in successive semesters researched stocks and made recommendations that were then acted upon. Some of the funds were spent on other activities like speaker forums or the like," Haltiner said in an e-mail. Haltiner also wrote that after the funds went unused for several years, about \$20,000 was given to the Investment Club.

Matthew Sass '10, vice-president of the club, said in an e-mail that the club "was started with a large donation back in the early 90s, so we are technically an endowment fund. Money has been pulled from the club at various periods, leaving us with about \$25,000."

According to Piatt, the club holds weekly meetings at which there is a market update, discussion about the club's portfolio and opportunities for members to make presentations on stocks in which they would like the club to invest. PowerPoint presentations will include information on com-

petitors and different variables. According to an e-mail from Malika Mukhamedkhanova '09, co-treasurer of the club, all members decide which stocks to buy and sell at the end of the semester.

Members are divided into different industries that report to the whole club, and the club recently added a game in which members "gain points by correctly predicting weekly and monthly stock price movements. As a member accumulates more points, [his] vote will have higher weight when it comes time to make portfolio decision," Sass said.

Currently, the club is investing in eight stocks: Celgene, CURD, Wachovia, Noble Energy, Toyota Motors, Google, Oracle and Zicorp. According to Sass, the majority of the club's money is invested with about \$7,000 held in cash. About \$2,500 to \$3,000 is invested in each of the club's stocks, according to Sass's e-mail.

Mukhamedkhanova joined the club because she wanted to learn more about the stock market outside of the classroom. Nicholas Patin '09 began

investing during his sophomore year.

"I have actually done really well and I owe a lot of that to the officers during my first year. It's always great being able to make money without having a job in college," Patin said. "The things I have learned in the club will definitely help me down the road to retirement."

Beyond the world of business, the Investment Club may soon play a role in the political arena of the College, according to Sass. "I am currently undersecretary for investment for the Student Assembly and am working with Caleb on expanding the role of the Investment Club to provide recommendations to and/or a partnership with the SA in [its] investment decisions, should [it] elect to pursue investment of excess funds in the future," Sass wrote.

"Investing is more of art than a science," Sass said. "The beauty of investing arises from the innovation in being able to see what other[s] can't or haven't yet, and profiting from it."

I am taking care of myself

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UNIVERSITY STUDIES ABROAD CONSORTIUM

Piña, Kyrios win in elections

PI ÑA from page 1

in a Flat Hat Column Tuesday. Kyrios won with 65 percent of the vote.

Most freshman winners were reluctant to talk about their agen-

das, but had positive opinions of student government.

“I just want some freshman unity, a nice arms around each other campfire sing-a-long,” Freshman Secretary Chrissy Scott said.

During the reception, Scott called her father to tell him about had to tell him about her win.

“I didn’t expect it,” Vice President of Advocacy Sarah Owermhle said. After being unable to attend most of the meet and greets, Owermhle had been considering dropping out of the election, but at the advice of her father, she stayed.

Hannah Armentrout was elected vice president of social affairs in the closest election of the race, receiving 50.3 percent of the vote.

Yael Gilboa ran unopposed for Treasurer and was elected with 83.9 percent of the vote.

Ronnie Wang, Michael Douglass, Brittany Fallon and Ben Brown were all elected senators with 50, 47.38, 46.07 and 34.10 percent of the vote, respectively.

“Get more bang with Wang,” Wang said when asked for a few words for the freshman class. “My strategy was really to talk to people in all the freshman halls.”

She added that she relied on her close network of friends from her home in Northern Virginia to get the message out.

Although unable to attend the meeting, Douglass ran the most directly political campaign, sending out e-mails to all students in the “Michael Douglass for Student Senate” Facebook group. The e-mails concerned Douglass’s opposition to the current meal policy. “Since we paid over two thousand dollars for our food, it seems that we should get what we paid for,” he said.

Douglass brought up the issue of extending dinner hours to 9:30 p.m. to help out those with busy schedules who have difficulty making it to the dining hall.


“It’s going to be a roller coaster, but they’ll enjoy it,” said junior class president Kevin Dua ’09.



LAUREN LAMP – THE FLAT HAT
New and old SA members celebrated the results of the ’07 election.

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Re-test of emergency alarm successful

By ALEX GUILLÈN
Flat Hat Assoc. Reviews Editor

A second test of the emergency alert siren Wednesday was successful. During the test, the 120-decibel alarm sounded across campus for one minute.

“We are very pleased that the siren system worked as expected this morning,” Vice President for Student Affairs Sam Sadler told W&M News. “It is important for this campus and members of the local community become familiar with this sound and that they are educated about what to do in

the event of an emergency at the College.”

The administration decided not to test the messaging system, in which students and others are contacted by phone and e-mail with information, because that part of the system worked both previous times.

Budget cuts stop Swem extended hours

LIBRARY from page 1

by the U.S. News & World Report rankings, were examined, the average number of hours per week the libraries at Brandeis University, Lehigh University, New York University and the University of Rochester are opened averaged 109.8 hours — almost seven hours more per week than Swem.

Prior to the budget cuts, Swem had been planning on extending its weekday hours.

“The second priority — we heard this not only from students but from graduate students

and faculty — is to open later Friday and Saturday nights and certainly Sunday,” McCarthy said. “We always had crowds ready to get in at 1 [p.m. Sundays] and people want to get in earlier than 1 p.m. So that still is something we want to be able to do, but given the budget crunch and the frozen positions, we’re not able to do it right now.”

Had the extended hours been enacted, Swem would have been open 112 hours per week, more than most of the universities examined.

The recent minimum wage increase has also affected the

library budget. Currently \$5.85 per hour, the minimum wage will increase within the next two years to \$7.25.

“What [the minimum wage increase] means is that we are able to hire fewer students or students are able to work fewer hours,” McCarthy said. “So far that hasn’t impacted our hours, but it has impacted the number of students we’re able to hire.”

McCarthy said that she hopes to have an increase in funding that will allow her to begin filling vacant positions and extend library hours further within the next few years.

1,000 families expected to arrive this weekend

FAMILIES from page 1

Women’s Chorus, William and Mary Choir and Wind Symphony and Orchestra, will take place in William and Mary Hall at 8:00 p.m. Friday. At the same time and location Saturday, all of the College’s a cappella groups will combine their talents for the “William and Mary Sings!” concert.

Finally, student athletes will be showcasing their talents. The women’s soccer team takes on Drexel University Friday at 7:00 p.m. and University of Delaware Sunday afternoon, while Tribe football, hoping to maintain an

undefeated record against the Tigers, faces Towson University in Zable Stadium Saturday at 1:00 p.m.

Although tickets for the game are still available, presales indicate a high potential for reaching the sell-out mark of 12,259 according to Spencer Milne, the director of ticket operations.

“The Family Weekend game has turned into one of the better-selling games because of all the parents that come in,” Milne said.

Student volunteers have become vital to the overall success of Family Weekend. According to Ambler, interest in

volunteering increased this year as the Office of Student Affairs saw “an overwhelming response from students wanting to welcome families.”

Donaldson described the various responsibilities of the students that he and Sauvain assembled.

“There will be 98 student volunteers, participating in roles such as parent registration greeters, student ambassadors at faculty/parent receptions, lantern tour guides, ushers at the William & Mary Sings concert and Lecture Series introductory speakers for our participating professors,” he said.

The lecture series includes a wide variety of topics, including a discussion by Ambassador, Professor of Law, Associate Professor of Government and Associate Vice Provost for International Affairs Mitchell Reiss on American Foreign Policy and a lecture on dating and college relationships by Associate Professor of Sociology Deirdre Royster.

“The students that volunteer for Parents Weekend each year take a lot of pride in the campus community here at William and Mary, and want to show off all that we have got to offer,” Donaldson said.

A full schedule of events can be picked up at check-in Friday and Saturday and is also available on the Family Weekend website.

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STAFF EDITORIAL

To keep pace, invest boldly

Yesterday’s announcement that the endowment skyrocketed 19.2 percent from last year’s total should be encouraging for all members of the College community. Buoyed by an impressive 19.5 percent return on the fund, the College’s asset jump of nearly \$100 million — from \$492 million last year to \$585.9 million this year — marks an important step forward for an endowment that has lagged behind its peers in recent years.

The high performance should come as no surprise. In a year when booming domestic and international markets forged ahead at impressive rates — giving investors up to 45 percent returns for some emerging international markets — any performance lower than what the College posted would have been disappointing.

Investment returns of 20 percent or higher were the norm this year for university endowments. Yale University’s endowment grew at a rate of 28 percent, the highest performer of schools that have reported so far. The College compared well with other large and prestigious endowments, including the University of Pennsylvania, which reported investment returns of 20.2 percent, and Massachusetts Institute of Technology, which saw a 22.1 percent return on its investments.

High returns on the endowment are critical for the College, particularly given the recent state budget cuts. A strong endowment allows the school more independence from the state and also allows the College to continue to bolster support for financial

aid, faculty resources, building projects and a host of other areas that will enable the school to keep pace in the competitive world of higher education.

The College attributed the improvement in its performance to a new investment strategy. (We would point to the phenomenal investment climate over the past year that would allow most amateur investors to do remarkably well.) The school should embrace any changes it has made, but also continue to become more aggressive in its investments. The endowment’s future health lies in diversification and integration with international markets, something that investment leaders have realized and advocated for years.

Schools with money in international equity funds and emerging markets saw returns of about 30 percent and 45 percent for the year, respectively. The College has rightly understood that it needs to move away from an investment portfolio dominated by conservative stocks and bonds, and it should continue to become more aggressive in its investments so that it may one day catch up to its peers.

It is significant that investment returns have overshadowed our fundraising problems, and College President Gene Nichol and others may be quick to capitalize on this increase for public relations reasons.

However, domestic markets may not be as favorable over the next 12 months as they were over the last year. For this reason, College decision makers must also act to ensure that our investment strategy is guided by savvy, market-based decision making.

In a year when booming markets forged ahead at impressive rates, any performance lower than what the College posted would have been disappointing.

The Flat Hat welcomes submissions to the Opinions section. Letters to the Editor and Opinions columns are due at 5 p.m. Sunday for publication the following Tuesday and at 5 p.m. Wednesday for the following Friday. All submissions must be typed and double-spaced, and must include the author’s name, telephone number and any relevant titles or affiliations with campus or national groups. Letters may be no more than 300 words; columns may be no more than 700 words. Letters must be e-mailed to opinions@flathatnews.com. The Flat Hat reserves the right to edit all material. Because of space limitations, The Flat Hat may not publish all submissions. The Flat Hat Editorial Board meets before each issue to discuss the position taken by editorials. Unsigned editorials are written by a designated member of the Editorial Board. All Board editorials reflect the consensus of the Editorial Board. Letters, columns, graphics and cartoons reflect the view of the author only.

Fed up with Family Weekend

Sherif Abdelkarim
FLAT HAT STAFF COLUMNIST



Unless your parents have boarded their flights or are half an hour away on the interstate, there’s still a chance to ask them not to visit this weekend. Otherwise, these next few paragraphs will be little more than a let-down and self-defeating in their purpose.

Alas, Family Weekend is here yet again, bringing back to mind the cataclysmic horrors of move-in day. Sure, it’s only been a month since then, but we can use a break. Since this is absurd (it’s only been a month), the next best thing to do would be to give our parents a break, vicariously relieving us of the stresses of on-campus food, insufficient funds and the therapeutic intimacies of a parent-child reunion.

Maybe it’s my bitter old age as a student here, but I’m not a fan of these weekends. In fact, I annually ask my parents not to attend, as we all have our separate errands to run. Besides, this weekend is really set up for freshmen parents anyway.

To confirm this stubborn belief of mine, I asked Beth Fagan ’11 and Olivia Walch ’11 from Oregon and Virginia, respectively, whether their parents were planning to show their faces this weekend. The answer is no. For Fagan, they were too far. For Walch, too close. On the other hand, Michelle Kelley ’09 explained that her parents were on their way over.

I did some research to get to the truth of things, dropping by the Dean of Students office to talk to Graduate Assistant Ben Boone. We chewed the fat a while, not talking much about the impending parental orgy of academic activities, athletic events, orientations and lectures to eclipse this weekend. He did tell me, though, about the Family Weekend website (www.wm.edu/studentaffairs/familyweekend). Eventually, I talked to Assistant Vice President for Student Affairs Ginger Ambler, who provided me with a pretty accurate idea of what this weekend’s all about.

According to Ambler, “anywhere from 1,000 to 1,200 families register for the weekend each year,” with slightly more parents of seniors and freshmen attending. Since the weekend isn’t funded by the College, parents actually pay to

visit their kids, enjoying free shit along the way (continental breakfasts and brunches, mainly). Again, I was referred to the website, where, upon entering, I was inundated by announcements of weekend golf, a string of women’s soccer games, concerts, lectures, football, a presidential address, street fairs, high-protein foods, international study expos, picnics, museum exhibits, misguided campus tours and, my favorite, open classes.

I’m not too sure about these open classes. Parents in our classes are like us during Blowout. Some parents really have no idea what they’re paying this College to teach their kids, and likewise some professors hold really strong opinions, as they should. In fact, if you are a professor and are reading this, make it a point to jump about the classroom in hysteria, foaming at the mouth, ranting and raving like mad.

I don’t know, while mulling over Family Weekend, I think maybe it’s not so bad after all. Granted, you’ll fall further behind in your reading, and you probably won’t be able go out Saturday night, but then again you wouldn’t have been anyway. If you really want to see your parents before Fall Break, have them visit another

Maybe it’s my bitter old age as a student here, but I’m not a fan of these weekends. In fact, I annually ask my parents not to attend.

weekend when it’s not so crowded. They won’t have to pay \$30 to see you, and you can lead the tour yourself. As for lectures, well, I’m sure the professor won’t care if you have your mom sit in on a Tuesday morning chemistry lab. In addition, there are plenty of ways of getting a free lunch around here (asking nicely works best). But even quick family visits can get hectic, in which case there’s e-mail, great for maintaining personal relationships with loved ones.

I will end by returning to Ambler’s argument: “Family Weekend is all about sharing W&M traditions through the events on the schedule — athletics, the history of the campus, excellent faculty lectures, W&M Sings concert showcasing the cappella community, etc. I am sure there are some traditions not on our schedule as well, including a nice dinner out with Mom and Dad and shopping with them off campus.”

Sherif Abdelkarim is a junior at the College.

Same Campaigns.



By Olivia Walch, Flat Hat Cartoonist

Put a face on the campaign

Kalyani Phansalkar
FLAT HAT STAFF COLUMNIST



In two days, I received at least seven group invitations on Facebook from random freshmen asking me to vote for them. Facebook has already taken over my life, but this constant bombardment of requests is a big turnoff. Honestly, it’s gotten to the point where I can barely stop myself from screaming, “No! I will not vote for you!”

I can understand campaigning and getting your name out there — but so far, that’s all I’ve been getting. Everywhere I go, whether it’s the University Center, my classes, my residence hall or even a random restroom, all I see is a plethora of colored papers plastered to the bulletin boards. The funny thing is that they all obnoxiously shout the same message. By default, there is the person’s name written in some bold, eye-catching font, a picture of them in an impressive situation and the position for which they’re running. I came back to my dorm one day and saw about a dozen of these flyers fighting for about a foot of cork strip. But, on the bright side, at least the colors of the papers were different.

As a freshman, it is more important for me to know what the candidates are going to do rather than what they look like. First of all, I have a hard time keeping track of names to begin with because I meet so many new people every day. With this constant influx of new names, remembering some name on a campaign poster I saw in microeconomics class becomes rather overwhelming, unless, of course, the candidate uses a cheesy slogan — those are always welcome!

I was not interested in any candidates because their platforms seemed as thin as their colored paper. By no means am I saying that they have no

platforms or no goals for the year, but I haven’t heard or read anything about them. And frankly, I want to. I want to listen to their ideas, visions and thoughts. More than anything, I want this to be different from high school — I want this to be more than just a popularity contest.

I don’t want to be harsh, nor do I want to discourage candidates from campaigning fervently, but I just want to actually know the person for whom I’m voting. There are many officer positions open for the freshman class, each requiring different credentials. As a voter, I want to know what each candidate can do to satisfy the position’s obligations.

What does this mean for our future leaders? Perhaps they can include some of their ideas on their posters. Or they can even stand outside the UC with a poster, making it easier for people to see

There are many officer positions open for the fresman class ... As a voter, I want to know what each candidate can do to satisfy the position’s obligations.

them, talk to them and ask questions. In any case, I feel like there has been a huge communication gap between the vote-seekers and the vote-givers. With these elections now over, we have run out of time to rectify our indifference toward some candidates.

I am sure there are some candidates who are actively seeking support throughout campus, but I have not come across any such endeavors. It is true that we are just freshmen, still trying to acclimate ourselves and a little unsure about campaigning in college. The campus is large and it is hard to get the word out effectively. But, I look forward to next year’s elections, when the excuses for conspicuously missing platforms will not be quite as plentiful.

Kalyani Phansalkar is a freshman at the College.

Budget cuts limit library jobs

Candyce Collins
GUEST COLUMNIST



When I returned to school last month, I heard about new things on campus, such as the freshmen receiving track bags during orientation and the construction of the Jimmie Laycock Football Center and Lake Motoaka Amphitheater. I was happy when I learned about them because I thought that our school had an increased budget. Not too soon afterward, however, I learned that Gov. Tim Kaine was considering to cut the budget by 7 percent. I did not think too much about it until I found out that it would affect me directly.

I heard there were going to be cuts at Swem Library where I work. Hiring was going to be limited, as well as the money available to pay students. Even if I wanted to, I could not work over eight hours a week. Although the minimum wage has gone up, I also learned that I would not be receiving an immediate raise because, at six dollars an hour, I am above the new minimum wage. This means that recent hires are being paid almost as much as I am, even though I have been working in the library for one-and-a-half years. This was not too bad, but it did not make me happy.

Then I learned that the department of the library that I work in, the government department, was going to be integrated with technical services. The government department is in charge of the government stacks and microfiche next to its desk. Beyond filing and processing, the employees commonly help students find information for their government papers and help other patrons with directions within the library. The employees also get books and brochures for faculty and serve as the go-between for interlibrary loans and patrons who want a government document from

another library. I learned that it will take at least a semester for this long-standing department to be integrated with technical services in the basement and for the staff to be distributed throughout the library.

Along with the rest of the department, I was saddened by these decisions. Everyone in the department was going to be placed in different areas of the library. If I decide to stay, I’ll be placed in the basement, joining technical services. The considerable government department workload will then move down to technological services, which is currently understaffed and overloaded with work. How is the work expected to be done when it is incorporated into another department that will not consider the government work a priority?

The budget cuts keep the library from hiring,

The budget cuts affect everyone here, not just the employees of the library. ... What will happen to it after all these cuts take place?

having longer hours and giving raises to students. It has also been the cause of closing a useful department within the library. Is there another area at this institution which has had so much taken away from it? We use the library all the time. Budget cuts should affect something that we do not use.

The budget cuts affect everyone here, not just the employees of the library. The library is no longer open as long as it used to be, and it will not be as efficient as it once was. The library is a very important part of everyone’s education here at the College. What will happen to it after all these cuts take place? They already affect us considerably, and they have not even been completed yet.

Candyce Collins is a junior at the College.

VARIETY

Kindling enthusiasm in College's foundation

Spotswood Society tours provide glimpse of Wren's history

By MICHELLE JU
The Flat Hat

The Christopher Wren Building, with its auburn brick edifice bordered by a quaint white fence, commanded a quiet, dignified splendor. The dark center hall smells of aged wood and is embellished with a deep teal. Attracted by this historic building, tourists and history buffs stumble through the portico and the heavy doors to find themselves greeted by members of the Spotswood Society.

The Spotswood Society is composed of nearly 40 students who present the Wren Building and its history by offering tours for tourists and prospective students. Ryan Lintelman '09, a new member of the group, lead a tour into a room formerly used as a school for American Indians, now called the Classical Grammar School. He mentioned the English courtroom-style benches and pointed at the pulpit, noting, "We let little kids stand up here."

The Wren Building, famed to be the nation's oldest academic building in continuous use, was originally constructed in four years and completed in 1699. It has survived three destructive fires and once served as a college and dormitory for approximately 100 students and six professors. Former College President Timothy Sullivan founded the Spotswood Society in 1996 stipulating that students epresent the Wren Building. The group is led by Louise Kale, the executive director of the historical campus.

As Lintelman proceeded with the tour, escorting the tour group into the Great Hall, he pointed to the grand tables lining the wooden walls. "They pull these tables out like in 'Harry Potter,'" Lintelman said. The room is used for the College's Yule Log celebrations; the gargantuan fireplace plays



ALICE HAHN — THE FLAT HAT

Directing a tour into the Great Hall of the Wren building, Alice Real '08 points out a picture of Queen Anne. After the Wren burned in 1705, Queen Anne gave money to help rebuild the school.

the ritual's most central role, as students toss sprigs of holly upon which they've placed the stresses of the previous semester into the roaring blaze.

After showing off the Blue Room on the top floor — the meeting room for former chancellors as well as the Board of Visitors — Lintelman finally descended a staircase back to the main level, explaining, "These [staircases] weren't originally here. They were added because of fire hazards," he said.

The job is structured conveniently around

classes — one shift per week for two to three hours. Two tour guides are available to guide individual groups per shift. "Tour guides hang out in the center hall and wait for people to come in," Micheal Blackman '09, a Spotswood Society member, said. "The tours are based on the tourists' interest. Some want to see just the chapel, while others want to see the basement."

Being an envoy of such a historic emblem offers bragging rights.

"It's like being an ambassador to the city," Lintelman said. "There is a sense of honor in presenting Williamsburg. Somehow, a lot of tourists somehow start their day there."

The members agreed that perhaps the best part of the job is meeting new people. "I love seeing different people who are interested in seeing history," Blackman said. "Quintessential people with cameras, old people that just want to get to know the place,"

A great variety of people tour the building. "The best thing is talking to strangers, like fourth graders and the Hungarians. Not to mention, foreign dignitaries," Spotswood Society member Jackie Woods '09 said.

Joining the Spotswood Society is a process as competitive as it is selective; it entails an application, an interview and a letter of recommendation. Selected students are notified in the spring and must undergo "a two-day intensive history boot camp" in the fall, according to Woods.

The tour ended with Pat Mott '09, a veteran tour guide, who takes an interest in the building's previous devastations, such as

Blue Talon cooks up movie night fun

By KEVIN MOONEY
The Flat Hat

As the sky darkens on a hot summer night and the tourists littering the streets start to disperse, Colonial Williamsburg develops an invigorating atmosphere. Families and students spread blankets and lawn chairs in the middle of Prince George Street, for the Blue Talon's Summer Movie Series, where every Sunday a different movie is projected on a screen set up outside the restaurant.

The event is held during the summer and presented by the Blue Talon, with many other local stores. Starting in July, movies including "Casablanca," "Batman" and "Airplane!" were shown, but this weekend marks the last movie night of the season. The Blue Talon will wrap up its summer movie series Sunday at sunset with a showing of "The Lord of the Rings: The Fellowship of the Ring."

An informal setting defines every aspect of the Blue Talon movie night. Attendees must bring their own seating. Food is available from the restaurant itself, in addition to 25-cent popcorn provided by Retro's and ice cream from the adjacent Baskin Robbins. Even the time the movie starts is rarely set in stone. "We don't really have a starting time," Blue Talon Manager Louise Wood said. "We just wait 'til it gets dark."

The atmosphre appeals to patrons. "It's outdoors, really open and a good environment," Williamsburg resident John

Sizemore said. He heard about the event just by word of mouth.

Now in its second year, the Blue Talon Summer Movie Series has been continued largely thanks to the substantial community response.

"Last year we [rented] the screen, but it was so successful that we decided to purchase it," Wood said. And now, with the support of other community organizations, such as Merchants Square, the city of Williamsburg and The Peanut Shoppe, the movie night's future is increasingly assured. "It's definitely returning next year," Wood said.

The movie series provides a way to advertise the restaurant that — unlike print ads or other forms of advertising — can also give something back to the Williamsburg community. "Really, it is to give back to our clientele to say thank you," Wood said.

The movies are appealing to the Williamsburg community. "They're just campy and fun," Wendy Craighill, another Williamsburg resident, said. She heard of the movie night through Blue Talon's website. "It's free, open and fun. And I love the cartoons. I come every week." As a treat for those who come a little early, old black-and-white cartoons, such as "Big Bad Sinbad" and other favorites, are shown beforehand.

The Blue Talon is open daily from 8 a.m. to 9 p.m. Information about the menu and the movie series can be found on its website, bluetalombistro.com.



ALICE HAHN — THE FLAT HAT

The second floor hallway houses pictures of 15 past presidents of the College. The most recent addition is of Timothy Sullivan who retired in 2005.



ALEX HAGLUND — THE FLAT HAT

The Blue Talon's Summer Movie Series draws to a close this Sunday.

Popcorn critiques, 21-inch screen leave columnist missing his Schmommy

James Damon
CONFUSION CORNER COLUMNIST



Sometimes we miss the strangest things about people. I have only been a junior for one month and I already lament the loss of my sophomore roommate Andrew Schmadel. Don't worry; he's not dead — just studying in Scotland for the semester. While my current living situation is going swimmingly, I miss the distinctly motherly presence my friend Andrew had in my life. In short, I miss my Schmommy.

Were I more superficial, I would mourn the absence of Schmadel's 21-inch computer monitor. On rainy days when he was in physics lab, I would skip class, pull down the shades and watch old film trailers on his computer. When he came into the room, tears would be welling up in my eyes because I had watched the trailer for David Lynch's "The Elephant Man" 17 times.

"Are you okay, James?" Schmadel would ask me.

"I'm fine, this trailer is just so sad."

I still pine for Schmadel's beautiful computer monitor, but that is not what made his friendship so valuable to me. What I miss most is his ability to find fault in everything I did. The way I made my bed, the way I popped my popcorn, even the way I watered my plant — all of these things were fair game for Schmadel's critical eye. It got to the point where I might leave the room to make popcorn, afraid I would be critiqued for burning my bag.

One experience stands out in my mind as indicative of our roommate relationship. I had just written a short paper for an English class and wanted someone to look over my essay. I asked him to take a look. Schmadel glanced over the paper for several minutes as I bit my lip. "What do you think?" I asked.

His eyes shot at me and he responded, "James, I can't believe you're an English major."

My fingers tingled as my heart began to race; I feared that the shock of this statement would give me a heart attack. "What do you mean?" I asked.

"Well, it's your style. It's so typical, and the things you say are so contrived. Are you really

majoring in English?" I never told Schmadel before, but that might have been the most humiliating moment of my life. It was only the two of us in our cavernous Jamestown attic room, yet I felt more embarrassed than the time my voice cracked while I was giving a speech in sixth grade or the time I accidentally called my kindergarten teacher "Mommy" during class.

For a long time I resented Schmadel for calling me a terrible writer. While he lacked tact, the things he said weren't completely unfounded. I am not the strongest writer and never will be. I struggle with clarity and originality in every Confusion Corner column that I write. Friends should be considerate of each other, but a good friend should be the first person to point out our defects, albeit in a more respectful way.

Through his incessant nagging of my every fault, Schmadel did what every decent friend should do: He tried to make me a better person. I know for a fact that had Professor Xavier been a more critical friend of Magneto, then the Brotherhood of Evil Mutants would never have been formed, and countless human and mutant lives could have been spared. Complacent

friends can be blamed for the fall of great men like King Lear, Michael Jackson and Whitney Houston. Why did no one tell King Lear that Goneril and Regan were bad news? Why did no one warn Whitney Houston that Bobby Brown and crack are two of the world's most destructive substances?

I should thank Schmadel for keeping me in line while I was 300 miles from my own mother. One other memory stands out in my mind. Andrew and I were having some friends over to our room to watch a movie on his glorious computer monitor. I forgot to make my bed from the night before, but when I came into the room I found my blankets neatly folded. I looked up at Schmadel who violently pushed his vacuum cleaner along the carpet. "We have company coming over in a couple of minutes," he said. "Could you put some sodas in the fridge?" I smiled, and carefully placed the cans of Diet Pepsi and Sierra Mist beside tins of prebaked biscotti and fat-free yogurt. Everything was in its right place.

James Damon is a Confusion Corner columnist. He's planning a trip to Scotland over fall break.

Turn off the lights to get turned on

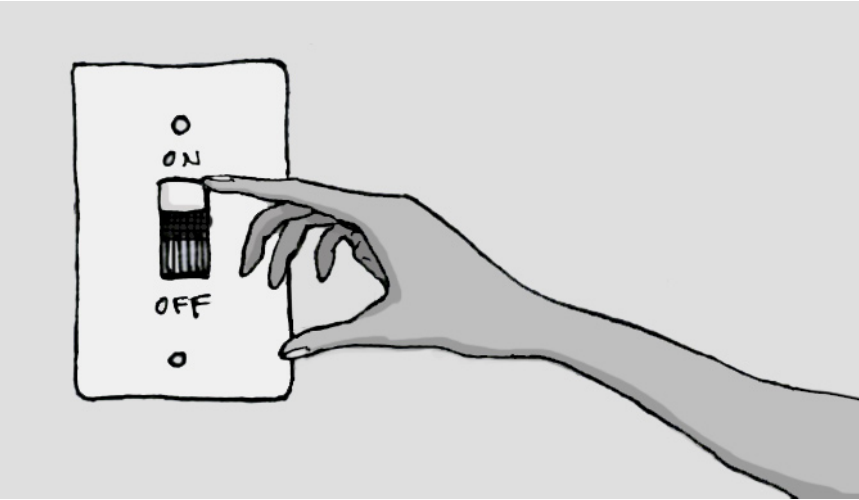
Emily Powell
BEHIND CLOSED DOORS
COLUMNIST



If you’ve walked through the hedges in Colonial Williamsburg at night, you know what it’s like to be gripped by fear. Your heart’s beating, you’re shuffling your feet as fast as you can and you’re breathing as if you’ve just run a mile. The thing that makes this so scary, other than the gripping ghost story that precedes it, is the stuffy and almost claustrophobia-inducing darkness. In reality, people who fear the dark actually fear what is hidden in it — the mystery of the unknown veiled by every shadow. But darkness doesn’t always have to be terrifying; the thrill of the unknown can be a major turn-on in the bedroom.

Some people are so timid in their sex lives that having sex or making out with the lights on is the kinkiest thing on the menu. That concept is all backward — when the lights go off, the heat turns up. Don’t get me wrong, seeing the look on your lover’s face when he or she orgasms is hot. But what about all the little parts that you miss because you’re too busy concentrating with your eyes, penis or vagina? The feeling of your partner’s heartbeat, her breathing getting heavier and faster, the sweat on his back — those little things is what makes sex in the dark more intense.

When it’s about that time and the lights get turned off, draw out the foreplay. Your fingers can do the work that your eyes would normally do. I’m not saying to use her nipples like you’re reading Braille. If you take some time and move from the neck down, you can heat her up with both your lips and your fingertips. It’s always wise to



shave before this, because while a little brush of stubble can get some girls ready to orgasm, for others it will have them ready to go. In the dark you can follow the outline of her body, touching curves and spots that you would have jumped over for the main attraction in the light. Some secret areas that deserve a little more time and energy are the collarbone, along her ribs and the thighs. More time means more than a stroke or two; if you take time to lightly caress those areas, leaving the inner thighs for last, she’ll be more than ready when you bring it home.

Many people play little games before sex to get them in the mood — stripteases and love dice come to mind. The element of darkness can be integrated into most of those warm-ups, too. Here is another excellent game can get almost anyone to the brink of an orgasm, and if played well can be continued straight through to guaranteed orgasms. You’ll need either a computer chair with arms or a bed with posts. Take a few neckties and make sure his hands are tied to either the arms of the chair or the bedposts. They don’t have to be tight; you’ll see that the point is definitely not to cut off circulation to his hands. Use another tie to wrap

around his eyes as a blindfold. Now — with the man at her mercy — the girl can tease him until she’s ready. Try licking his lips and always pull away right when he’s really enjoying it. If you want to have sex, you can let him know the true definition of a cock tease. He’ll be excited by the element of surprise, not knowing which body part you are going to touch next, and with so much built-up sexual tension the restraints may eventually give way.

That’s the point of having sex in the dark; some have sex in the dark because they feel that’s the only way to loosen their restraints. Everyone feels the same in the dark — the chaos and confusion of bodies moving, the heartbeats and gasping. It might be a way to get out of your own skin and feel like your partner’s not judging you. If this is the case, maybe use the games and the security of the dark to become more comfortable with yourself and your partner. It’s true that the grass is always greener on the other side, and once you know every inch of each other by touch, it will be that much more exciting to see the ecstasy on your partner’s face in clear light.

Emily Powell is the Flat Hat sex columnist. She has many scarves with various patterns.

Society offers glimpse of Wren’s history



ALICE HAHN — THE FLAT HAT

SPOTSWOOD from page 6

the infamous fire of 1859. “The library on the main level was the most flammable at the time,” Mott said. “Someone kicked over the lamp, and the whole place went up in flames.”

He finished the tour with an anecdote of the crypt, pulling out an old black-and-white photograph of the crypt, home to the coffin of Lord Botetourt. “The crypt under the chapel is creepy but really cool,” he said.

When asked about the infamous “crypt crawl,” in which students crawl through an

underground passageway into the burial chamber of countless colonial figures, Mott replied, “The only people who can do the crypt crawl [are those in] the Spotswood Society.”

The Wren Building houses enough secrets to spark candid interest — the crypt, ghost legends and the recent controversy of the Wren cross, which now sits enclosed in a clear case in the chapel. Nonetheless, the best-kept secret that the building has to offer is the Spotswood Society, which continues traditions through enlightening tales and accounts of the building itself.

SUDOKU

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answers at flathatnews.com

HOROSCOPES

- Virgo:

Aug. 23 - Sept. 22

This week, you will become motivated to change the College’s official color to red because of all the tape that surrounds every fucking thing on campus.
- Libra:

Sept. 23 - Oct. 22

Speaking of which, don’t be alarmed this week if you hear Gene Nichol announce our new mascot: the College Bureaucratic Clusterfucks.
- Scorpio:

Oct. 23 - Nov. 21

You’ll have to keep yourself from punching those slow walkers in the back of the head. Don’t worry, the stars will make sure they receive their come-uppance.

- Sagittarius:

Nov. 22 - Dec. 21

You knew that nutmeg-induced hallucinations were going to be strange, but you never thought Boris the Blade would propose to you.
- Capricorn:

Dec. 22 - Jan. 19

If you get bored this week, try this: Go to flatthatnews.com, register as anonymous to hide your identity and bitch about things that don’t concern you.
- Aquarius:

Jan. 20 - Feb. 18

You will decide this week to join the large group of people who are offended by our sex column. Not because you care, but because you never get laid.

- Pisces:

Feb. 19 - March 20

You just can’t seem to figure out that problem set, can you? Fear not; just ask Sam Sadler to form a committee, and within two years you may have results.
- Aries:

March 21 - April 19

Your physics professor encourages curiosity, but he won’t know what to say when you ask him how Gene Nichol could pull off a five-minute keg stand.
- Taurus:

April 20 - May 20

Don’t play into the media hype that president Mahmoud Ahmadinejad is the most evil force in the world. That honor clearly goes to Parking Services.

- Gemini:

May 21- June 21

You might be depressed over the Redskins’ week three loss, but it could be worse. You could be a Redskins fan who also reads “Harry Potter”. Talk about depressing.
- Cancer:

June 22 - July 22

You’ll be thankful for the Health Center this week when you hurt your neck trying to fellate yourself over how intelligent you sounded in class today.
- Leo:

July 23 - Aug. 22

Yeah, you’re right: A blind man in a wheelchair could have finished the construction on Landrum Drive by now.

— compiled by Alexander Ely

That Girl

Marlana Ashe



By SAMANTHA FIEN-HELFMAN
That Girl Columnist

Marlana Ashe is a passionate, down-to-earth young woman who values personal relationships, her ability to make a difference and diversity at the College. This trait was evident by her candidness and her ability to speak freely about her experiences during our interview. Her rational outlook complements her humorous and light-hearted nature. Since elementary school, Marlana has had her heart set on the College. The people, the beautiful campus and the atmosphere: All qualities she desired in a campus matched up. Now, as she gets to ready to graduate a semester early, Marlana reflects on some of her achievements, challenges and memories at the College.

Can you tell me about some of your involvements on campus?

I was a member of the Honor Council but was not able to serve this year because I’m graduating early and would not be able to fulfill all the requirements. Honor Council has truly shown me the integrity of the student body because, for the most part, those who turn in cases are students. I have also been a member of Ebony Expressions since the start of my freshman year. The group is comprised of mostly women and has acted as a small sisterhood, enabling me to keep my spiritual base at school. I love children so I’ve always tried to do something with them: my first year I tutored kindergarten with CPK [College Partnership for Kids] and right now I am working with AVID [Advancement Via Individual Determination], a new program working with kids who are considered underachievers to reach their full potential. Lastly, a major involvement for me has been with Alpha Kappa Alpha, a historically black sorority on campus. It’s been helpful to have an interactive way of learning lessons in both business and service. I’ve served as both the financial secretary, treasurer and chair of the scholarship committee. Our chapter is so small it’s nearly impossible to not be in some type of leadership [position], but it’s a great way to learn the infrastructure of our sorority by [creating] the necessity to be active.

Why did you want to join AKA?

There were a number of reasons. I’m an only child, so I really value relationships. I knew a sorority would be a great way to build relationships that would last a lifetime. I would see girls on campus who were sisters, and they seemed nice. I started going to the AKA-sponsored programs in attempts to get to know them better. When my friends said they were also planning to [participate in recruitment], I was excited to go through the process with them. Also, many women who touched my life as a child are Alpha Kappa Alpha women, including my mom. Seeing their poise as women and hearing about my mom’s experiences pushed me to want to be able to have similar opportunities as an AKA. The service aspect played a huge role in my decision as well. The Nu Chi Chapter of AKA runs a mentoring program called Project D.I.V.A. (Developing Intellectual and Valuable Adolescents), which really interested me given my love of kids. Overall, I am really glad I did it.

Have you been happy with your experiences at the College?

Yes, I’ve always wanted to come here. When I was in elementary school, I used to come to William and Mary for Saturday enrichment programs. I loved it. In addition to that program, I saw the amazing time that my cousin had here during her years at the College. I felt like William and Mary was the type of school I needed: I had looked at other colleges and universities and did not think that their atmosphere would be conducive to the type of learning environment I needed. William and Mary has been a great mix. Sometimes it is tough, but I know that I was put here for a reason.

That reason might be hard to understand at times, but I couldn’t have asked for a better place to spend my college years.

What made you want to graduate early?

I felt like I had served my purpose here. I did not come into school with that being my plan in mind. I’ve been going to summer school every summer and the opportunity just arose. It’s a great way to save money, too. Now that graduation is actually approaching though, it’s gotten really difficult. I’m always on the verge of tears because of how much I’m going to miss this place. William and Mary continues to become a better place as this semester progresses and I feel that, as a student, I won’t be able to see the heights it reaches. I live here. Eat here. Go to classes here. It all becomes a lifestyle and it is hard to give that up so quickly. It’s going to be tough not to have it.

What is one way in which you’ve stepped outside your comfort zone?

This past summer I studied abroad in Florence. It was a huge deal for me because it was my first plane ride ever. Other than a train trip to Rome and other trips planned by the program, we got on the plane there and then turned around one month later to take the plane back. While I was there though, my friend and I really decided to try something new. For the most part, we restricted ourselves to just classes and didn’t try anything new. I’m a huge music fiend and I did not bring an iPod, computer, radio or anything. The only time I could listen to music was when we woke up early to watch videos on television. They would only play Rihanna, which was not sufficient.

What do you think you are going to miss most?

The randomness. I’m really going to miss the unpredictability and spontaneity that occurs on a regular basis. Other house girls and I will sometimes get up in the middle of the night just to take a walk. Other nights we will go and raid Wawa. And some lucky nights, we will get the futon and slide down the stairs on it as if we were on a roller coaster. It is just those little things that I will really miss. When I am back at home, I can’t just pick up and do things like that. My friends at home will have other obligations: school, kids, etc. They won’t be able to get up and play with me whenever I decide to do something.

What job are you both applying for?

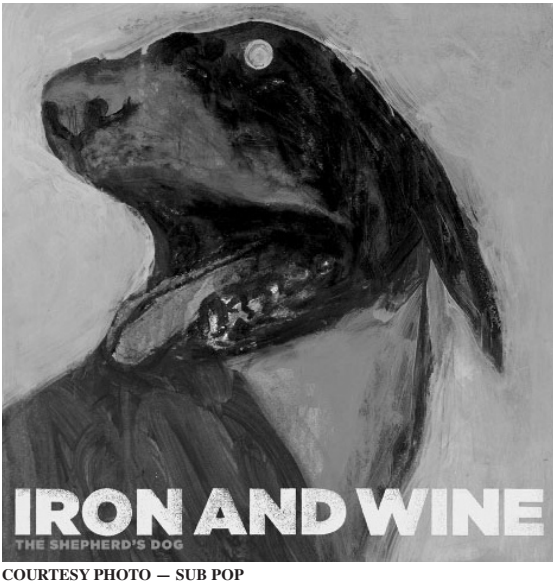
Well we went to the Career Fair together and learned about a job with the Close-Up Foundation. The position is available starting January until June, which is perfect for us. We would be working with students and taking them around Capitol Hill, hosting different seminars and explaining to them the different aspects of government. It’s neat because you don’t have to be a government or education major; their biggest concern is that you can interact well with kids and stay up to date on your own current events.

What would you say your ideal job, 10 years from now, would be?

I would love to be a clinical psychologist with my own practice. I would want to be working with a school district so that if kids had problems, they could refer them to my office. I also want my own family development center. In my hometown [Portsmouth, Va.], there are a lot of people who are homeless or jobless and, as a result, they decide to hustle. Portsmouth has a “no tolerance policy,” meaning if you get kicked out of school, you are not allowed to come back. Because of this, a lot of the would-be probation kids just turn to selling drugs. I would want to guide, educate and train. Ideally, I could help implement an after-school program where students could learn vocational skills and have job training and placement in those jobs. I think having those skills is one way of decreasing the kids on the streets.

REVIEWS

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Iron & Wine breaks lo-fi shell on ‘Dog’

By **PHILIP ZAPFEL**
The Flat Hat

Over the last five years, Sam Beam has been a model of consistency. He has released two full-length albums and numerous EPs under his Iron & Wine moniker, all of which featured finger-picked folk guitar in an intimate setting accompanied by his signature deep, husky, almost whisper of a voice. He gained national attention via his cover of “Such Great Heights” on the “Garden State” soundtrack, and his 2004 album “Our Endless Numbered Days” was near the top of many best-of lists for that year.

However, there have been signs of change for Beam. His last EP, “Woman King,” was the first to feature full-band instrumentation and had a much more polished production value than anything before “Endless Numbered Days.” Iron & Wine’s latest release, “The Shepherd’s Dog,” follows the EP’s lead and is filled with a much wider range of instruments and compositions than any of Beam’s previous works.

For many artists, especially those so reliant on the close-knit, lo-fi ambience that Iron & Wine once fully embraced, a change like this would be dangerous, even fatal to the artist’s eventual output. However, this album is less a step out of character for Iron & Wine than a growth into a larger world; Beam’s songwriting shines brightly in his most expansive and experimental album yet, helped by the new arrangements and accompaniments.

The opener “Pagan Angel and a Borrowed Car” starts familiarly, with a lo-fi sound opening into an upbeat country tune and Beam singing “Love was a promise made of smoke / In a frozen copse of trees.” But from there, the song expands, featuring rolling piano and violin as Beam weaves a story about dirty pews, drunken kings and outlaw angels. The song opens the floodgates to an entirely new place, and Beam leads us through this Southern Gothic universe over the next 45 minutes.

The best songs are the ones that stick out from the usual Iron & Wine fare, which stand as proof that Beam’s adventurousness serves him well. “White Tooth Man” opens with a sitar and soon explodes into a paranoid, absurdist detective story. “Carousel” has more atmosphere than any Iron & Wine song to date, and Beam’s double-tracked voice is more haunting than ever, floating above the finger-picked guitars like its own apparition. “Boy with a Coin,” with its slow stomping beat and lyrics of alienation and despair, is truly the most depressed Beam may have ever sounded, and the song shines through as the album’s best.

“The Shepherd’s Dog” even includes a few hints at electronic influences (“House By the

See **IRON & WINE** page 9

CW spreads this fall’s hot ‘Gossip’

By **DAVID MENDLER**
The Flat Hat

In a posh world filled with money and privilege, social hierarchy reigns supreme. A lifestyle filled with rich socialites throwing wild parties, sipping martinis and enjoying New York City nightlife, all on their parents’ dime. While this may seem unrealistic to the everyday high school student, the CW’s new series, “Gossip Girl,” illustrates the romanticized lives of such teenagers growing up in the affluent Upper East Side. Based on the book series by author Cecily von Ziegesar, the television show depicts the petty drama that plagues the everyday lives of teenagers everywhere.

The show is narrated by Kristen Bell (“Veronica Mars”) as Gossip Girl, an inside informant who is somehow in the know about all the latest drama involving the admired cast of characters. While keeping her identity top secret, she blogs about the juicy details of the clique’s drama.

The series stars Blake Lively (“Sisterhood of the Traveling Pants”) as Serena van der Woodsen, the former reigning queen bee of an exclusive Manhattan private school, who has spent the last school year at a boarding school in Connecticut. When Serena returns from her long absence, she finds herself on the outside of the social inner circle and that her old friend, Blair Waldorf, played by Leighton Meester (“Surface”), is now her biggest enemy.

The prime time show is written by Josh Schwartz, the creator of “The O.C.” Speaking of “The O.C.,” Schwartz’s newest project bears a great resemblance to his previous show. Different coast, same story? While it may appear that “Gossip Girl” is similar to Fox’s famed teen-driven soap opera, “Gossip Girl” has more credibility, as the program was derived from a book series. With genuine characters and relatively more believable plotlines — I say this very loosely — the show may be on its way to being one the fall’s biggest hits. Even before the show’s premiere, a huge fan base had developed among people who had read the books. With the absence in the fall television schedule of a teen-focused melodrama, “Gossip Girl” may find its audience.

In terms of acting, Lively provides a surprisingly stellar performance as the likeable rich girl, Serena. While having a relatively thin resume, Lively was able to convey endearing qualities in a character that could easily come across as spoiled or vacant. Meester is equally convincing as the mean and conniving Blair. She showcased her acting ability by showing her evil side in portraying Blair’s manipulative, stop-at-nothing-to-get-what-she-wants manner. Penn Badgley (“John Tucker Must Die”) plays Dan Humphrey, the lovable and endearing “good guy” who seems unconcerned with money and the lifestyle that goes with it. He has a genuine quality that’s translated through his character in his awkward

encounters with Serena, eventually leading to a relationship.

While the show is definitely quality entertainment, could it be considered a high-quality acting drama? Let’s not kid ourselves. The show serves its purpose: It displays stereotypical and mostly unrealistic situations of glamorized people and all the drama

that goes along with being so beautiful. And as shallow and superficial as this may sound, that is what the audience lives for. Within the first half-hour of the pilot, it is revealed that Serena slept with Blair’s boyfriend before she went to boarding school, which

See **‘GOSSIP’** page 9



The CW’s new teen soap, “Gossip Girl,” stars Blake Lively as Serena van der Woodsen, the socialite at the center of the show’s teen drama.

‘Sydney White’ lacks fairy dust

By **GREG GLAZIER**
The Flat Hat

Before I begin this review, I’d like to personally thank Starbucks for the grande Americano which kept me awake and receptive for the 90 minutes required to watch “Sydney White.” Without it, I would have lost consciousness about 45 seconds in, right after the film’s first cliché. Starring Amanda Bynes (“Hairspray”) as the title character, this latest addition to the catalogue of humorless teen

comedies transplants a beloved Disney princess from fairy tale to freshman year of college. The film attempts to update the classic story of Snow White, but bad acting and unoriginality make for a sleepy and dopey miss at modernization.

Let’s start with what “Sydney White” does best. It’s entertaining to see how the filmmakers chose to update such a well-known story. Our heroine is now tomboyish and gawky rather than innocent and pristine, and the spooky fairy tale forest she wanders through is the

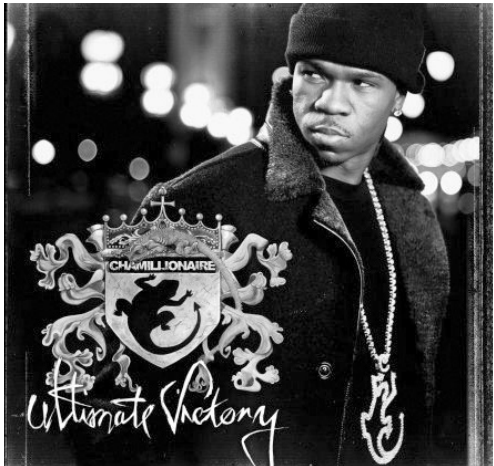
familiar college campus. The evil queen is now Rachel Witchburn (Sara Paxton, “Aquamarine”), a sorority girl whose magic mirror is an online ranking of the campus’s hottest undergrads. The seven dwarves are now seven dorks who befriend Sydney after her expulsion from Witchburn’s bleached blond kingdom of Kappa Phi Nu. And of course Prince Charming is tossed in as Tyler Prince (Matt Long, “Ghost Rider”), the hunky frat boy who falls for Sydney.

The filmmakers also include plenty of verbal references to the fairy tale, the funniest example occurring when the seven dorks march past Witchburn with a sarcastic greeting of “Hi, ho.” These allusions are generally amusing, and there is real humor in seeing Sneezy rendered as a nasal spray-huffing hypochondriac. However, that’s not enough to save ‘Sydney.’

This brings us to what the movie does wrong. It is depressing to watch such a clever idea stray from the creative to the cliché. Throwing in tired character sketches, such as the potbellied meathead, the angry and marginalized blogger and the insecure male virgin, might satisfy a sixth grader’s concept of college identity, but lends nothing to a



Amanda Bynes [CENTER] stars as the title character in “Sydney White,” a live-action modernization of the classic “Snow White” story.



Cham raps to ‘Victory’

By **GENICE PHILIPS**
The Flat Hat

With his biggest hit, “Ridin,™” Southern-style rapper Chamillionaire raked numerous awards (Grammy, BET Hip-Hop Awards), becoming a household name from the Houston rap scene with his very angry and bitter first album, “Sound of Revenge.” But with his sophomore album, “Ultimate Victory,” his mood swings have risen to a breaking point, mending his previous days of dissing fellow rappers. Chamillionaire has moved on to money troubles, adulterous groupies and deceitful news stories through discontented social commentary.

He has a lot to be concerned about,

See **‘SYDNEY’** page 9

See **‘VICTORY’** page 9

TV’s best and worst commercials: underwear ads win, dessert pizza ads fall flat

Alex Guillén

CRITICAL CONDITION COLUMNIST



Sure, commercials are a kind of necessary evil to make television possible. But they can be something more. When done properly, commercials can actually be entertaining to watch — they can aspire to be essentially short stories with a bit of product placement. When done poorly, commercials can be boring, pedantic, creepy or confusing.

First, here are some commercials that are worthy of praise.

Fruit of the Loom: This underwear manufacturer has somehow turned the commercial for the mundane into something memorable. Not only are the Fruit Guys funny, but the songs and accompanying music videos are poignant (and, by the way, free to download at fruitguyfans.com). I especially enjoy Apple,

the de facto leader of this talking produce stand, and Leaf, who isn’t technically a fruit, but since he’s often attached to fruit, he’s okay.

BP: An animated baby drives with some of his infant friends, looking for an eco- and wallet-friendly gas station at which to fill up. Aside from the excellent graphics, a catchy tune makes me tap my foot and search for the nearest BP. This commercial is excellently executed; it is difficult to stand out in a field in which the competitors sell literally the same product. For an example of a bad gasoline ad, read on.

Apple: I am a fan of PC. But then, who isn’t? The irony of that series of ads is that more sympathy is garnered for PC than for Mac, ostensibly the better of the two systems but also somewhat arrogant. The iPod ads are great because they introduced me to many great bands, including Feist, Qwantic, Cut Chemist and OK Go. Also, Orba Squara is the group featured in the iPhone ads.

UPS: Again, this is a field in which pretty much all of the competitors offer the same thing. What makes UPS stand out is its classy

series of commercials involving an everyday guy explaining how UPS overcomes delivery obstacles to get your package there faster. The clarity of the ad is amazing, and the guy’s whiteboard tricks are entertaining to watch. Finally, the ad is fittingly accompanied by a song from The Postal Service.

Now, the commercials that are so awful they should be taken into the street and shot, if only they were tangible.

McDonald’s Filet-O-Fish: This ad features two of the fast food chain’s greasy, disgusting filet-o-fish sandwiches arguing over subtle differences in the pronunciation of the “filet-o-fish” moniker. This is a terrible ad for two reasons. First, the concept itself is shockingly mundane; by the end of the one-minute ad, I wanted to stab something. Second, such prolonged close-ups of this disgusting fast food give us more reasons to vomit than drool, as we have plenty of time to observe the unnaturally square-shaped fish, the wilted lettuce and the tartar sauce that may or may not have gone bad last year.

Anti-pot ads: A poorly drawn landscape and ear-aching music mark the latest in anti-pot awareness. Each time, a weird guy implores his girlfriend or dog to smoke with him. Each time, they reject him for an alien or something. It’s almost as if the people who came up with this anti-pot campaign were high. These ads don’t discourage me from smoking marijuana; in fact, they encourage it. Each time I see one of these ads, I’m tempted to go puff a joint right away, just to spite them.

Domino’s Oreo Dessert Pizza: And, for that matter, any ad for pizza, but especially when a pizza chain tries to expand its offerings. No pizza ad has ever made me want pizza, not even Papa John’s commercials, which are the only ones that even come close to being acceptable. Remember Fudgums? Yes, he haunts my dreams too. Sadly, Oreo pizza may actually be good, but we’ll never know because the commercial stars a creepy dad explaining to his creepy son that his Oreo pizza mustache will fill out with time. There

See **ADS** page 9

Coming Attractions

— compiled by
Alex Guillén



Bruce Springsteen and the E Street Band
“**Magic**” (Columbia Records)
The Boss’s first album with the E Street Band since 2002 features a litany of new songs that reflects a range of Springsteen’s power and ability. Tracks can be counted among his finest or weakest. “Magic” is less of a rocker than much of his previous work. **Oct. 2**



Annie Lennox — “**Songs of Mass Destruction**” (RCA)
Lennox’s new album possibly marks her best work yet. Gone are the experiments in style that plagued her earlier efforts. The few course adjustments stay true to the message of her work, brought forth with crystal clarity and beauty: although as a culture we may be on a road to destruction, Lennox finds redemption in the fray. **Oct. 2**



“Feast of Love” (MGM)
True, this is a chick flick, but this one is good, especially with its talented cast. Morgan Freeman, Jane Alexander, Greg Kinnear and Selma Blair headline this look at love as a fluid and uncertain emotion. This film oozes with excellence; the acting, filming and score create a satisfying experience. **Sept. 28**



“Cavemen” (ABC)
Inspired by the cavemen who face constant but humorous racial prejudice while leading bourgeoisie lifestyles, this series brings those commercial cavemen to the sitcom world. Will it work? Probably not. Tony nominee Julie White brings some comic energy to the show, but “Cavemen” will eventually become history. **Oct. 2**



“Pushing Daisies” (ABC)
This new series is marked by dazzling beauty, a cast with chemistry and an interesting plot. Lee Pace plays a baker who has the power to revive the dead with a single touch. The catch? If he touches them again they’re dead for good, and if they’re alive for more than a minute, innocent bystanders begin to drop like flies. **Oct. 3**

HOLLYWOOD GOSSIP

Lindsay: Fully Loaded
She may be sick of rumors, but Lindsay Lohan is caught in another trap. “Jackass” star Steve-O told Howard Stern on his talk show that the mean girl once stole a bag of cocaine from him. At a house party he hosted last year, she swiped the coke when she returned for her forgotten wallet. No confessions of a teenage drama queen here — LiLo denies the rumors. At least this time she was wearing her own pants.



Drinking with the stars
“Kill Bill” star Vivica A. Fox failed to show up in court this week to defend herself against charges of driving under the influence, leaving the honor up to Paris Hilton’s attorney, Richard Hutton. Police pulled the “Dancing with the Stars” reject over in March after clocking her at 80 miles per hour. She blew a .09 — a smidge over the legal limit. Fox also allegedly made racist comments to her white arrestors.



Tiny nude dancers
Elton John says it’s art. The police say it’s child porn. The management of a British art gallery tipped off the bobbies when a picture, bought by the Rocket Man in 1999, was to be put up for sale. The picture features two naked young girls dancing. Elton has spoken in defense of the artist, mentioning that the picture has been circulated throughout the world. Police confiscated the picture to determine if it is pornography.



Leave the gun, take the CPU
Francis Ford Coppola’s Buenos Aires home was broken into Wednesday. The five intruders made off with a good deal of electronic equipment, including several cameras and the computer on which Coppola kept notes on his upcoming movie, “Tetro.” Although the “Godfather” director was not home at the time, a production assistant was injured by the banditos.
— compiled by Alice Hahn and Alex Guillén



COURTESY PHOTO — FRUITGUYSFANS.COM
Fruit of the Loom successfully combines product and entertainment in its Fruit Guys ad campaign. One commercial features the Fruit Guys playing “Daddy Was the Apple Of My Eye” with Vince Gill [CENTER].

TV’s latest ads entertain and disgust

ADS from page 8

went my desire to try it. This is even creepier than the Netflix ads involving the eerily perky family watching movies with their eerily perky neighbors — at least the Netflix family is creepily frisky instead of creepily calm as in the Domino’s ads.
Shell: Shell’s sad attempt to make me believe that they actually drove two cars across the country to prove their fuel is better made me laugh. First, I recognized one of the “scientists” from other commercials, and second, the bit where one scientist finds his car

trapped within a herd of sheep is implausible at best. I’m taking my business to BP.
Viagra: Although I am personally disturbed by Viagra commercials, I recognize that ED does affect millions of men, and up until now their ads have been somewhat tasteful. But then Viagra had to go and make a commercial involving a middle-aged garage band singing about their ED medication to the tune of “Viva Las Vegas.” It’s just so disgusting. I’d like to see someone take Viagra and then try to play the upright bass.
Alex Guillén is the associate reviews editor. He wants to know if you have any Grey Poupon.

‘Victory’ rides on lyrical legitimacy

‘VICTORY’ from page 8

considering the recent debates about hip-hop music and its role in the black community. Music critics, academics and other rappers alike share concern about the negative contributions of hip-hop and its repercussions on American culture and society. Many rappers have taken a stance on where the responsibility lies, and “Ultimate Victory” tries its best to ease these tensions, even to the point of censoring songs (notice there is no parental advisory sticker) to dispel a few myths about the popular image of hip-hop.
His first official single, “Hip-Hop Police,” employs a bit of wordplay, cleverly jumping from rapper to detective as Cham harshly criticizes the music industry for playing the blame game against rappers. He features eye-patch-wearing, well-known storyteller Slick Rick, who comments on the investigations and smoothly coos, “It’s a bloody murder.”
The opening track, “The Morning News,” is an opinionated tongue-lashing at news reporting and its lack

of authenticity and relevance, pointing a finger at particular news commentators who have had issues with other rappers (Ludacris, for example): “Voice perfect for CNN but knew Larry King wouldn’t hear it through / Bill O’Reilly’s an idiot, he ain’t the only one with an opinion fool / E-mail this to my publicist so the media is gonna hear it too / You get on TV and get at me, then I’m gonna get on the CD and get at you.”
Chamillionaire doubles this bashing with “The Evening News,” another worthy track, in which he yet again role-plays a news reporter attaching social criticism to his lyrics: “Gas prices raises, the money keeps burning / Dropout rate rising, so what are they learning? / Sending the troops in the war so I turn it / To today’s evening news.”
Other stellar tracks erupt from the album, including the breakthrough song, “The Bill Collecta,” in which Chamillionaire is assisted by Bone Thugz and Harmony’s Krayzie Bone, while Bun B from UGK adds some sweet, mellow charm on the excellent Pimp Mode.

However, some tracks miss; Chamillionaire whines and gripes on the poisonous ditty, “Industry Groupie.” The song describes a groupie’s prostitute-like tendencies, although not until after an apologetic disclaimer plays for anyone who might be offended. Sampling from the 1980s hair-metal band Europe, Chamillionaire’s languid voice over the synthesized riffs lacks melody and, not surprisingly, depth. Another faulty and overplayed theme of “party like a rock star” is a disaster on the Lil Wayne collaboration, “Rock Star,” although the piercing guitar gives the song a splash of excitement.
“Ultimate Victory” is an honorable approach, changing a stereotypical, cash-flowing lyricist into a reflective, socially conscious rapper (at least for now). The 19-track album won’t be spawning Weird-Al parodies or ring tone madness anytime soon, but Chamillionaire is earnest about the future of hip-hop and tries to weaken its scapegoat image brought about by the music industry and society.
★★★★☆

Iron & Wine add sonic breadth on ‘Shepherd’s Dog’

IRON & WINE from page 8

Sea”), as well as a few true rockers (“Wolves”) that are more upbeat and closer to happy tracks than anything else Iron & Wine has ever released.
The musical variety allows Beam to cover more thematic ground than ever before, and thus the album seems to cover more literal ground as well. Beam’s early work traveled from the bedroom to the farmyard, with few places in between (besides the occasional visit to the graveyard). “The Shepherd’s Dog,” however, is an aural trip across the American South, encompassing folk, blues, early rock ‘n’ roll and every combination thereof.
Keeping the entire album grounded, however, is Beam’s small roar of a voice, usually just above a whisper but always full of vitality and meaning. It is what truly makes an Iron & Wine album unique and enjoyable: That deep, quiet sound implies a gained knowledge through pain or experience, much as Dylan’s voice does, and here he sounds as much a wandering scholar of Americana as an early-1960s Robert Zimmerman.
No longer can Iron & Wine’s songs be defined by their similarity to Beam’s lone contribution (a cover of an inferior songwriter, nonetheless) to that milquetoast indie, paint-by-numbers record that is the “Garden State” soundtrack. Instead, with this wider palette, Beam has freed himself to be judged by the strength of his compositions and narratives, and “The Shepherd’s Dog” pushes him into the stratosphere of today’s storytelling greats.
★★★★☆

Sleepy ‘Sydney White’ lacks quality fairytale beauty

‘SYDNEY’ from page 8

modernization of “Snow White.” Also, the film’s noticeable lack of racial diversity, coupled with its obsession with physical beauty (in one scene Witchburn criticizes each of the Kappa pledges in turn for problems including bad skin and weight gain), caused this reviewer to wonder why “Sydney White” was not simply set in a high school.
The boring plot additions cement the overall juvenile feel of the film and detract from the fairytale magic. After Sydney is kicked out of the Kappa sorority, she begins a campaign to beat out Witchburn in the race for student body president. The film makes it

clear that whomever wins the election will have final say over the fate of the Vortex, a disintegrating housing unit that’s home to the seven dorks.
Sydney, like any of the countless movie heroines who have walked this plotline before her, relies on the power of friendship in her battle against her evil rival. Yawn. There’s also some mention of the importance of being yourself and embracing your inner dork, but at this point my Americano is wearing off and I’m officially unimpressed.
While I did enjoy the update from murder to social sabotage, Witchburn’s fury is completely cartoonish and not at all intimidating; she’s no match for the classic villainesses with whom we

all grew up. In fact, in almost every respect, “Sydney White” falls way short of leaving an impact.
And whose fault is that? I hate to say it, but “Sydney White” suffers from a serious lack of talent. Paxton does her best at ice-cold wickedness, but comes across as a “Mean Girls” knockoff. Often racing through her lines, Paxton seems to think that ending each sentence with a stony glare would be enough to impart Witchburn’s vindictive quest to expose Sydney as the dorkiest of them all. Crystal Hunt (CBS’s “Guiding Light”) giggled through her role as the overexcited Southern belle roommate, exhausting her role as sorority pledge within her first minute of screen time.

And what about Byones? Surely this television veteran exhibited more acting chops than her female costars. Wrong. Byones was nasal and robotic in her portrayal of Sydney; clumping around the set, making cutsey faces at boys and whining about Witchburn. Byones has exhibited considerable comedic ability on shows like “What I Like About You,” which makes her crude and downright unattractive turn as Sydney all the more depressing.
All in all, “Sydney White” is one poisoned apple. Its worn-out plot devices and uninspired acting performances drag down what could have been a clever, tongue-in-cheek update of a favorite fairy tale.
★★☆☆☆

‘Gossip Girl’ adds spice to CW’s fall TV schedule

‘GOSSIP’ from page 8

may be her real reason for leaving. As a result, Blair and Serena go from best friends to frenemies. And that’s just the first episode.
Overall, “Gossip Girl” appears to be this season’s newest guilty pleasure. With a dedicated audience and some crazy plotlines, this show is definitely what everyone will be discussing the next day. Make sure you’re in on the gossip.
★★★★☆



COURTESY PHOTO — THE CW
Blair Waldorf, played by Leighton Meester [CENTER], is the resident mean girl in the CW’s “Gossip Girl.”

SPORTS IN BRIEF

WOMEN'S SOCCER
College kicks off conference
schedule by hosting Drexel

The Tribe will open CAA play this weekend by hosting a pair of conference foes. Drexel University comes to Albert-Daly Field Friday night, followed by the Blue Hens of the University of Delaware Sunday afternoon. The Tribe is now 5-3 on the season after last Sunday's 1-0 double overtime loss to the 4th-ranked University of Virginia Cavaliers. The loss had snapped the College's four-game winning streak. Last season, the Tribe captured the regular-season CAA title before losing in the conference tournament semifinals to Old Dominion University.

FIELD HOCKEY
Senior goalkeeper Hunter
named CAA player of week

Senior goalkeeper Gwen Hunter has garnered CAA player of the week honors for posting back-to-back shutouts in wins over Northeastern University and Radford University. Hunter amassed six saves in the Tribe's CAA opener against Northeastern last Friday, ensuring that freshman Jenna Cinalli's first-half goal would be the difference in a 1-0 victory for the College. Four days later Hunter was at it again, notching her second consecutive shutout while recording the 250th save in her Tribe career, moving Hunter into sixth place on the College's all-time saves list.

— Women's soccer by Jeff Dooley. Field Hockey by Miles Hilder.

SCHEDULE

- Fri., Sept. 28**
WOMEN'S SOCCER
vs. DREXEL — 7 p.m.
FIELD HOCKEY
@ Delaware — 7 p.m.
MEN'S TENNIS
@ Virginia State
- Sat., Sept. 29**
MEN'S TENNIS
@ Virginia State
MEN'S TENNIS
All-American Tournament (Pre-Qualifying)
WOMEN'S CROSS COUNTRY
Second Annual Colonial Inter-Regional Challenge — 10 a.m.
MEN'S CROSS COUNTRY
Second Annual Colonial Inter-Regional Challenge — 10:45 a.m.
FOOTBALL
vs. TOWSON — 1 p.m.
MEN'S SOCCER
@ Stony Brook — 7 p.m.
- Sun., Sept. 30**
WOMEN'S GOLF
Nittany Lion Invitational
Penn State University Golf Club
MEN'S TENNIS
@ Virginia State
MEN'S TENNIS
All-American Tournament (Pre-Qualifying)
WOMEN'S SOCCER
vs. DELAWARE — 12:30 p.m.
FIELD HOCKEY
@ Towson — 1 p.m.
- Mon., Oct. 1**
WOMEN'S GOLF
Nittany Lion Invitational
Penn State University Golf Club

VOLLEYBALL: VCU 3, TRIBE 2

Rams snap College's winning streak

By MAGGIE REEB
The Flat Hat

Despite putting up a good fight, the Tribe (7-9 overall, 2-1 CAA) fell 3-2 to Virginia Commonwealth University (4-11, 2-1), ending the College's three-match winning streak Wednesday night. "We lost because of our errors," Head Coach Debbie Hill said. "We should have made fewer mistakes and been less timid on offense." The Tribe and the VCU Rams went head to head in the first game, playing within a point of each other until, due to the College's miscommunication and a couple of bad touches, the Tribe fell behind. Though the squad bounced back and won several good volleys, their efforts fell short, as they lost, 30-28.

MEN'S SOCCER: TRIBE 1, AMERICAN 0

McAdams, Thomas fuel Tribe victory

Keeper's deep punt sets up sophomore's game-winning goal; team now 3-2-2

By CHRIS WEIDMAN
The Flat Hat

For the second straight game, sophomore midfielder Price Thomas provided the spark for the Tribe. This time it was Thomas's speed that was the difference, as his second goal of the season came during the 71st minute Tuesday night and helped secure a hard-fought 1-0 victory over the visiting American University Eagles (3-4-1) at Albert-Daly Field. After playing back-to-back double overtime games against University of North Carolina — Chapel Hill and Virginia Tech, the College (now 3-3-2 on the season) sat back defensively to conserve energy for much of the first half. The defensive emphasis led to only one shot on goal for the Tribe in the opening 45 minutes. "We played in front of them too much [in the first half]," Head Coach Chris Norris said. "In the second half we tried to stretch the ball a little more." Thomas's goal was set up by redshirt freshman goalkeeper Andrew McAdams. McAdams punted the ball deep into Eagles' territory and Thomas out-sprinted

an American defender to place a shot past goalie Chris Sedlak for the score. "I have been trying to get [McAdams] to do that all year," Thomas said. "Their defenseman misplayed the ball and I was able to slide it under the goalie." Thomas led the College with three shots on goal Tuesday night. "It was not a great performance overall in terms of our sharpness," Norris said. "We expected that coming in ... it took us a while to get going." The Tribe also recorded three yellow cards against the Eagles. American's best scoring chance occurred when Eagle midfielder Cameron Petty headed a corner kick toward the far post midway through the second half. McAdams reacted instantly, coming off his line to punch the ball over the crossbar. The shutout was the second of the season for McAdams, who was named last week's CAA Rookie of the Week following his performances against North Carolina and Virginia Tech. The College returns to action Saturday night when they travel north to face the Stony Brook University Seawolves, who have won five of their last six games.



ALEX HAGLUND — THE FLAT HAT
Sophomore midfielder Price Thomas, shown here against Virginia Tech Sept. 22, scored Tuesday night's game-winner.

FOOTBALL PREVIEW: TOWSON

Eyes on the Tigers



SPENCER ATKINSON — THE FLAT HAT
The Tribe defense, shown here against Liberty University Sept. 15, goes up against the Towson Tigers Saturday at 1 p.m.

College looks to build on Tech game experience, improve defense as they host conference rival Towson

By MILES HILDER
Flat Hat Assoc. Sports Editor

In an otherwise disappointing 2006 season, the Tribe showed signs of life against Towson University a year ago, driving the length of the field and kicking a last-second field goal to upset the then-24th ranked Tigers. The College will have to hold off a Tigers squad out for revenge Saturday, as the two teams meet this season carrying identical records of 2-2 and coming off tough defeats. The Tribe fell 44-3 on the road to Virginia Tech a week ago. Despite the score, the College put up a fight against one of the nation's top defenses in a hostile Lane Stadium. On the offensive side of the ball, the Tribe displayed poise and energy in containing the Hokies' potent passing game. "I look at the positives that came out of it," Head Coach Jimmye Laycock said. "It was a great experience for our players, they played hard, they got something out of it and they're ready to go on." Towson is also looking to rebound from a loss last week, as the Tigers were defeated at home by the University of Delaware, 27-7. The College dropped their season opener to the Blue Hens, 49-31 Aug. 30. "We've got a very good team coming in here in Towson," Laycock said. "They started off 2-0 and they lost

two close ones here to the University of Massachusetts and Delaware. Both of them were much closer than the score. They're a much improved football team over last year, especially defensively. We've got to regroup and get ready to play." The Tigers are led by junior quarterback Sean Schaefer, who is averaging 227.8 yards/game passing on the season. Schaefer has connected on 62.2 percent of his passing attempts and has fired six touchdowns. "He's a very tough individual," Laycock said. "He keeps coming back and he's going to stand in the pocket, he's going to step into throws, I don't care what you're doing. He's got a very good arm and he's experienced." While the Tribe's defense will have a tough assignment keeping Schaefer in check, the unit has shown improvement all season, holding two of the College's last three opponents to under 275 yards of total offense. Regardless, the team will have to perform well as the Tribe re-enters its CAA schedule. "Towson puts you in a position where you've got to make plays," sophomore free safety Robert Livingston said. "They spread you out, they can run it, so we'll just have to come out and play well. It's a league game, and league games are always tough. It's a big game for us to try and go 1-1 in the conference and try to get things rolling." Kickoff is set for 1 p.m. at Zable Stadium.

HOME FIELD ADVANTAGE

Towson game not a must-win, but very close

Jeff Dooley
FLAT HAT SPORTS EDITOR



I've never been one for the overused sports adage "must-win game," so I'm not about to use it to describe the Tribe's home matchup tomorrow against the Towson University Tigers. However, as the team (2-2 on the season) kicks off a string of seven consecutive conference games, they are aware of the importance of this contest. "If we're going to be successful in our conference, Towson is a team that we have to beat," senior tight end Drew Atchison said at Tuesday's press luncheon. The Tigers are also 2-2 this season, having dropped two in a row to stout CAA opponents University of Massachusetts and University of Delaware. On paper, the Tribe has Towson beat, averaging 36 points per game to Towson's 17 and leading them in virtually every offensive category. The Tribe has also won all four previous meetings between the two squads. Head Coach Jimmye Laycock expressed caution when describing the Tigers, however, citing their improved defensive performance this season and the toughness of Towson quarterback Sean Schaefer. Atchison described how the Tribe stacks up in the CAA, saying, "Our league is pretty tough, through and through. I think there's not a team in our league that we can't beat. Every team is going to be a challenge, though, so we need to bring our 'A' game every time." While Towson is certainly a formidable opponent, they pale in comparison to some of the remaining teams on the Tribe's schedule. In the final four weeks of the season, they host 2nd-ranked Massachusetts, go on the road to play 14th-ranked Hofstra University, welcome back the no. 9 James Madison University Dukes to Zable Stadium and close out the season on the road against no. 25 University of Richmond. In between the Towson game and this stretch are back-to-back road contests against Villanova University (a team just outside the top 25) and the University of Maine. So needless to say, a home win over Towson would be big for the Tribe.

The College will once again be without the services of redshirt freshman tailback Courtland Marriner, still nursing a hand injury that has kept him out of the last two games. Filling in for him (as well as junior running back DeBrian Holmes, out for the season with an ankle injury) are senior Tony Viola, whose overtime heroics helped lift the Tribe past Liberty University, and redshirt-freshman Thomas Schonder. It's important that the Tribe establish some sort of running game to take a little pressure off of junior quarterback Jake Phillips and the rest of the passing attack, a unit that has been outstanding through the first four weeks of play (329.5 passing yards per game). As for the Tribe defense, which has had its fair share of troubles (giving up an FCS record-tying seven touchdowns to Delaware running back Omar Cuff) through the early part of the season, Laycock seems to be encouraged after their performance at Tech. "I was extremely pleased with the overall play of our defense," Laycock said Tuesday. "I really thought we came out and tackled much better, we handled the running game much better than we had done up to that point, and hopefully we can build on that." The Tribe had better hope that they can continue to build on it, as it is clear that their matchups in the coming weeks aren't going to be getting any easier. E-mail Jeff Dooley at jadool@wm.edu.